

**THE EAST KENT (No. 1)
UNITED DISTRICT.**

Annual Report

Annual Report of 1937
OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1937.

PRINTERS :

"THE BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S MAIL"
THE BROADWAY, BROADSTAIRS.

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Pierremont Hall,
Broadstairs.

May, 1938.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Joint Committee of the East Kent (No. 1) United District.**

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you for your consideration my eighteenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the United District, which I have compiled in accordance with Circular 1650 of the Ministry of Health, dated 4th October, 1937.

With my report are incorporated the reports of the Sanitary Inspectors, and I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the help I have received from them in the performance of my duty.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. M. WATTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE EAST KENT [No. 1] UNITED DISTRICT.

JOINT COMMITTEE.

Herne Bay Urban District Council :

Councillor E. R. PITT, C.C.

Councillor A. F YOUNG.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council :

Councillor B. J. PEARSON, J.P. (Chairman).

Councillor H. NOBLE.

Councillor A. J. TANTON.

Bridge-Blean Rural District Council :

Councillor T. HILLS.

Councillor Mrs. A. B. HILTON.

Clerk : E. F. OWEN,

Council Offices,

Pierremont Hall,

Broadstairs.

STAFF.**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:**

A. M. WATTS, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Herne Bay and Whitstable
Joint Isolation Hospital:**

Medical Officer James Rowland Hamerton, M.B.,
B.S.Lond.

Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist Thomas A. Clarke, M.D., F.R.C.S.Ed.

Sanitary Inspectors:

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

C. J. Clark, Council Offices, Herne Bay, is Inspector under the Petroleum Acts, Inspector of Public Lighting, and the Officer for carrying out the Rats and Mice Destruction Act. He is also the Inspector under the Shops Acts.

He succeeded Mr. H. J. Norris, who retired on 31st March, after 40 years' service.

The Sanitary Inspector has the assistance of a lady clerk.

BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

F. S. Burrow, Pierremont Hall, Broadstairs, is Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act and the Officer for carrying out the Rats and Mice Destruction Act. He is also the Inspector under the Shops Acts. The Sanitary Inspector has the assistance of a clerk.

BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

H. K. Blundell, Senior Sanitary Inspector, Council Offices, Bridge, near Canterbury, is Engineer of the Harbledown Sewerage Works and the Hersden Sewerage Works; the Officer for carrying out the Rats and Mice Destruction Act; and he superintends the scavenging of the District. He became Senior Sanitary Inspector on 1st October, 1936, on which date Mr. R. J. Connolly commenced duty as Sanitary Inspector. A junior Clerk is employed in the Sanitary Inspector's Office.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The East Kent (No. 1) United District was formed by an Order of the Minister of Health, dated 26th May, 1920; and by an Order of the Minister of Health dated 2nd March, 1934, the Bridge-Blean Rural District, which came into existence on the 1st April, 1934, was substituted for the Rural District of Blean as a constituent Authority of the United District; then by an Order of the Minister of Health dated the 21st February, 1935, the Isle of Thanet Rural District ceased to exist on 31st March, 1935, and in consequence the United District was correspondingly reduced in size and population.

The United District, which is situated at the north-east corner of East Kent, now consists of the following Districts:—

The Urban District of Herne Bay.

The Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter's.

The Rural District of Bridge-Blean.

The area is as follows:—

	Including Inland Water.
Herne Bay U.D. ... ..	... 8,566 acres
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D. ... ..	... 2,771 „
Bridge-Blean R.D. ... ..	... 55,868 „
	<hr/> 67,205 „

The population:

	Census 1931 for the Areas as constituted at 30th June, 1935.
Herne Bay U.D. ... ..	... 14,533
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D. ... ..	... 12,727
Bridge-Blean R.D. ... ..	... 17,041
	<hr/> 44,301

POPULATION ESTIMATED BY THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Herne Bay U.D.	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	Bridge-Blean R.D.
16,030	13,230	15,560

CHIEF OCCUPATION OF INHABITANTS.

A large percentage of the inhabitants of the two Urban Districts may be described as private residents. There are many private Boarding Schools and Convalescent Homes in these two Districts. Many of the inhabitants are employed in hotels, boarding houses and lodging houses, or are engaged in occupations connected with the stay in these Districts of the numerous visitors; and some are engaged in fishing and work connected with the sea.

In the Rural District many of the inhabitants are engaged in agricultural pursuits; there is also the Chislet Colliery situated in the Parish of Westbere, where some 1,350 men are employed; some of these men live in the neighbouring towns of Canterbury and Ramsgate, and others in the adjoining villages, but about 400 have their homes in the colliery village of Hersden. There is also a Paper Mill at Chartham, where some 122 people work; and the small village of Woollage, in the vicinity of Womenswold, is inhabited entirely by miners who work at the Snow-down Pit. The Mental Hospital at Chartham accommodates 1,500 patients and about 150 members of the staff.

VITAL STATISTICS.

UNITED DISTRICT.

	Total	M.	F.		United District	England & Wales
Live Births—	527	267	260	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	11.75	14.90
Legitimate	497	251	246			
Illegitimate	30	16	14			
Stillbirths—	25	17	8	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	45.28	Not available
Deaths—	583	277	306	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	13.00	12.4

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):—

No.		Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)		
No. 29.	Puerperal sepsis ...	Nil	Nil	0.94	
No. 30.	Other Puerperal causes	1	1.81	2.17	
	Total ...	1	1.81	3.11	

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	34	58
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	34	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	33	

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	86
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

INFANT MORTALITY.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

HERNE BAY U.D.—Seven.

Umbilical Hernia	...	...	1
Prematurity	...	...	1
Suffocation	...	...	1
Perforated Gastric Ulcer	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	1
Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	1
Gastro Enteritis	...	...	1

BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S U.D.—Three.

Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	1
Infantile Convulsions	...	...	1
Premature Birth	...	...	1

BRIDGE-BLEAN R.D.—Eight.

Prematurity	...	...	6
Bronchitis	...	...	1
Cardiac Failure	...	...	1

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

There has been no important change in the Laboratory facilities; nearly all bacteriological work connected with the United District is carried out at the County Laboratory, Sessions House, Maidstone, free of charge, outfits being supplied to the Medical Officer of Health and to medical practitioners in order that they may send specimens to the Laboratory for examination. Some work in connection with the Crole Wyndham Convalescent Home at Herne Bay is carried out at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) INFECTIOUS CASES.

The Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital Committee, at a meeting on the 13th June, 1934, entered into an arrangement with the Whitstable and District Ambulance Committee for the removal of patients to the Isolation Hospital from both Districts.

The Isle of Thanet Joint Isolation Hospital Board possesses a motor ambulance which is housed at the Hospital, and in it patients are removed from the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District, and from the Boroughs of Margate and Ramsgate. It was provided in 1921.

The Bridge-Blean Rural District Council have an arrangement whereby they hire a motor ambulance belonging to the Eastry Rural District Council for the removal of patients to the Isolation Hospital.

(b) NON-INFECTIOUS CASES.

In the Herne Bay Urban District the ambulance service is provided by a Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, who maintain the motor ambulance, the Urban District Council making an annual grant towards the fund.

The ambulance service in the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District is provided by the British Red Cross Society. There are three ambulances, which are in the custody of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Ambulance Corp, Kent V.A.D.59, the Urban District Council providing the headquarters room and a garage in the Fire Station Yard.

In the Bridge-Blean Rural District the ambulance of the Kent and Canterbury Hospital is used for non-infectious cases; there is also an ambulance at the Chislet Colliery for the use of the workmen there; and the motor ambulance of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, Herne Bay Division is available.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

The District Nursing Association provides a District (Queen's) Nurse.

BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

Nurse Sears, who acted as Parish Nurse within the Parishes of St. Peter's and Broadstairs under the auspices of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Nurses' Fund for a period of 32 years, retired at the end of October. The Broadstairs and St. Peter's Nursing Association was then formed and was affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association, Miss Hinchcliffe, a Queen's Nurse, being appointed as District Nurse.

BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

Adisham, Nonington, Goodnestone, Chillenden and Knowlton.—A District Nurse works in these Parishes under a local association affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

Barham, Denton and Womenswold.—A District Nurse works in these Parishes under a local Association.

Bridge, Patricxbourne, Bekesbourne and Bishopsbourne.—A District Nurse employed by a local association which is affiliated to the County Association works in these Parishes.

Chartham and Thanington Without.—This Association was formed during the year and is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

Chislet and Hoath.—There is a District Nurse working in these two Parishes under a local association affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association. She also works in the Parish of Reculver which is situated in the Herne Bay Urban District.

Fordwich, Sturry and Westbere.—A District Nurse works in these Parishes under a local Association affiliated to the County Association.

Harbledown, Blean, Hackington, Tyler Hill and St. Stephen's.—A District Nurse employed by a local Association which is affiliated to the County Association works in these Parishes.

Littlebourne, Ickham, Wickham and Stodmarsh.—There is a District Nurse working in these Parishes under a local association affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

Upper and Lower Hardres.—A District Nurse works in these Parishes under a local association affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association, and also in the Parish of Stelling.

Waltham, Petham, Elmstead, Crundale and Hastingleigh.—This Association was formed during the year and is affiliated to the Kent County Nursing Association.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

DENTAL CLINICS.

At Herne Bay a School Dental Clinic is held at the Parochial Institute each Wednesday from 9.30 a.m. until 4.0 p.m. There is also a Dental Clinic for Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Infants held at the Parochial Institute on alternate Fridays from 9.30 a.m. until 4.0 p.m., the patients being drawn from the various Welfare Centres in the Herne Bay area.

In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District a School Dental Clinic is held at the Mothercraft Club, St. Peter's Road, Broadstairs, on each Tuesday except the first and fourth in each calendar month, from 9.30 a.m. onwards. The School Dental Surgeon also attends on each Saturday morning (except the third Saturday) from 9.30 a.m. to 12.0 noon. New facilities for the dental treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Infants under five years of age, attending Kent County Council Welfare Centres in the Isle of Thanet, were introduced in November, 1937; these include the administration of general anæsthetics, conservative treatment and the provision of dentures. This Clinic is held at the Mothercraft Club on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 1.30 p.m.

A School Dental Clinic is held in the Bridge-Blean Rural District when required, usually on a Tuesday, at No. 11, Longport Street, Canterbury. This clinic serves the surrounding District.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

The Centre in Herne Bay is carried on by the County Council and is held at the Parochial Institute each Monday and Tuesday at 2.0 p.m.

There is also a centre open on alternate Fridays at 2.0 p.m. at the Institute, Herne.

BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

There is one voluntary Centre at Broadstairs called the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Mothercraft Club, situated in St. Peter's Road, which is open each Thursday at 2.0 p.m.

BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

Five Centres are in existence in this District, carried on by the County Council, particulars of which are as follows:

Barham.—Held in the Village Hall on alternate Wednesdays at 2.0 p.m.

Hersden.—Held in the New Wesleyan Chapel Rooms each Wednesday at 2.0 p.m.

Littlebourne.—Held in the Sports Hut, on alternate Tuesdays at 2.0 p.m.

Petham.—Held in the Village Hall on alternate Wednesdays p.m.

Sturry.—Held in the Parish Room on the second and fourth Thursday in the month at 2.0 p.m.

HEALTH VISITORS.

The following is a list of Health Visitors and their Districts:—

HERNE BAY U.D. ...	...	...	Nurse Tustain
BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S U.D.	...	...	Nurse Morris

BRIDGE-BLEAN R.D.

Parishes of Bekesbourne, Fordwich, Hackington, Harbledown, Ickham and Well, Littlebourne, Patricxbourne, Sturry, Thanington Without, Westbere and Wickhambreux	...	Nurse Worthington.
Parishes of Adisham, Barham, Bishopsbourne, Bridge, Lower Hardres, Upper Hardres, Kingston and Womenswold	...	Nurse Jervis.
Parish of Blean (St. Comus and St. Damian)	...	Nurse Edwards.
Parishes of Chartham, Petham and Waltham	...	Nurse Daw.
Parishes of Chislet and Hoath	...	Nurse Tustain

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

There is an Ante-Natal Clinic held in the Parish Room, Sturry, on the second Thursday in each month at 10.30 a.m.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Arrangements are in force for the investigation of Maternal Deaths and cases of Puerperal Pyrexia by the County Medical Officer. The District Medical Officer of Health notifies him of Maternal Deaths and sends to him duplicate notification certificates of Puerperal Pyrexia cases.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

The County Council have made arrangements for cases notified in the United District to be admitted to the Ramsgate General Hospital; the Kent and Canterbury Hospital; the Thanet Public Assistance Hospital; and the Royal Victoria Hospital, Folkestone; if hospital treatment is asked for by the doctor in attendance. Arrangements have been made with Nursing Associations for their nurses to visit cases if required.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

The School Oculist holds an Ophthalmic Clinic from time to time at the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Mothercraft Club, St. Peter's Road, Broadstairs.

ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.

Since the 1st March, 1937, this Clinic, which is attended by Mr. A. L. Moreton, M.S., F.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent of the Alexandra Hospital, Swanley, has ceased to be held in Broadstairs, and is now held at the School Clinic of the Borough of Margate, College Road, at 11.30 a.m. each Tuesday, the surgeon's days are the first and third Tuesday in each month.

CANCER.

At the following voluntary Hospitals in the County specialized treatment is available:—

Kent and Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester.

Royal Victoria Hospital, Folkestone.

Victoria War Memorial Hospital, Deal.

Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.

West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARIES.

The following are available for the inhabitants of the United District:—

Address.	Day and Time of Attending.	
Canterbury: 11, Longport-street	Friday.	10.0 a.m. to 12 noon and 1.15 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.
Herne Bay: 16, High-street	Thursday. 1st and 3rd each month	1.15 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.
Margate: 41, St. Peter's-road	Friday.	2. 0 p.m. to 4. 0 p.m.
Ramsgate: Charlotte Cottage, Market- place	Wednesday.	1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Tuberculosis Officers and Nurses attend at the Dispensaries, and the latter also visit patients in their own homes.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

Arrangements have been made for the treatment of cases of Venereal Disease by the County Council, and clinics approved by the Minister of Health, which are available for the inhabitants of the United District, have been provided as follows:

Clinic.	Day and Time of Attending.		
Kent and Canterbury Hospital	Women ..	..	Tuesday, 6.0 p.m.
	Men ..	..	Thursday, 6.0 p.m.
13, South Road, Faversham	Women ..	..	Saturday, 1.30 to 2.30 p.m.
	Men ..	..	Friday, 6.30 to 7.30 p.m.
Eaton House, St. Peter's Road, Margate ..	Women ..	..	Saturday, 3.30 to 5.0 p.m.
	Men ..	..	Saturday, 5.0 to 6.30 p.m.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

HERNE BAY U.D. }
WHITSTABLE U.D. } JOINT
 HOSPITAL.

The Hospital, which is built of brick and slate, is in an isolated position, situated about one mile from Herne Bay, and is erected on a piece of land about three acres in extent. There is accommodation for 16 patients in three separate ward blocks, allowing 144 square feet floor space per patient; there is also a laundry and an administration block. The Nursing staff consists of a Matron, Sister, Staff Nurse and Four Assistant Nurses.

Water is obtained from the supply of the Herne Bay Water Company. The Hospital is connected with the main of the Herne Bay Gas Company. It is drained to cesspools.

It will be seen that the number of beds in this Hospital is inadequate for the needs of the district, provided that the scale of one bed per 1,000 of the population, which has hitherto been required by the Ministry of Health, is adhered to. The population to be served by this Hospital as estimated by the Registrar-General at the middle of 1937 was:

Herne Bay Urban District ...	...	16,030
Whitstable Urban District ...	...	15,504
		<hr/>
		31,570
		<hr/>

If the accommodation is estimated in the proportion of one bed per 1,500 of the population, as it is understood to be the proportion required by the Ministry of Health now, then the number of beds should be 21.

In providing additional accommodation, the erection of a cubicle block would no doubt be the best method to be adopted; a discharge block is also necessary and the Hospital should be connected with the public sewer; it is hoped that the sewer will be extended to the Hospital in the near future.

The following diseases are treated in the Hospital:—Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Cerebrospinal Meningitis, Acute Poliomyelitis, Encephalitis Lethargica and Puerperal Pyrexia. Cases of Measles and Erysipelas will only be admitted under very exceptional circumstances, and after consultation between the Medical Officer of Health concerned and the Medical Officer of the Hospital.

It is estimated for the financial year commencing 1st April, 1938, that the cost will be £1,200 for each District.

BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S U.D.—	} JOINT HOSPITAL.
BOROUGH OF MARGATE—BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.	

The Hospital is situated in the Borough of Ramsgate, and is about two miles from the centres of the towns of Margate and Broadstairs. The Nursing Staff consists of one Matron, one Assistant Matron, five Sisters, two Assistant Nurses and twelve Probationers. The Nursing Staff is increased temporarily when necessary.

Patients suffering from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Cerebrospinal Meningitis, Typhus or allied diseases are admitted, and also cases of Puerperal Pyrexia. On the 10th March the Joint Hospital Board decided to admit certain cases of Measles suffering from serious complications which cannot be treated satisfactorily at home.

The building, which was erected at the beginning of the century, the foundation stone being laid on the 29th October, 1900, consists of an administration block, two ward blocks for Scarlet Fever, one block for Typhoid Fever, and one for Diphtheria; a cubicle block with eight beds, three small huts, and an observation block, providing accommodation for about 100 patients, together with the necessary staff. There is a discharge block, also porter's lodge, steam disinfectory, laundry, mortuary, ambulance station, etc., the whole standing on about ten acres of land.

The building is constructed of brick and tiles and is in good order. Gas is supplied by the Broadstairs Gas Company; electricity from the main of the Ramsgate and District Electricity Supply Company, Ltd.; water is obtained from the supply of the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council, and also from a deep well in the grounds. The Hospital is connected with the sewer of the Ramsgate Corporation.

There are four acres of land adjoining the Hospital belonging to the Board. On this land is situated a bungalow in which the Medical Officer lives. He devotes the whole of his time to the duties of his office. He is empowered to employ Consultants when necessary. The name of the Medical Officer is Ernest Harding-Freeland, F.R.C.S.Eng.

As a result of the Review of County Districts the constitution of the Board managing the Hospital was altered, and since the 1st April, 1936, has been as follows:—

Margate Borough ...	...	The Mayor and 9 Members
Ramsgate Borough ...	...	The Mayor and 8 Members
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.		The Chairman of the Council and 3 Members.

The estimated cost of Isolation Hospital treatment for the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District for the coming year is £1,210.

BRIDGE—BLEAN R.D.

For particulars regarding Isolation Hospital accommodation for this District see page 85.

SMALLPOX HOSPITALS.

HERNE BAY U.D.

The Smallpox Hospital of the Herne Bay Urban District Council still exists, and is waiting to be transferred to Poulton in the Dover Rural District, to form part of the enlarged Dover Borough Smallpox Hospital there. It is not available for use owing to the fact that the Coastal Road is passing through part of the grounds.

In June, 1935, the equipment of this Hospital was removed to Poulton.

In the Spring of 1935 a temporary agreement was arrived at between the Herne Bay Urban District Council and the Corporation of the Borough of Dover, pending the coming into force of the scheme already submitted to the County Council, to receive into the Hospital at Poulton cases of Smallpox occurring in their District, the contributions payable being £49 15s. 0d. annually.

BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S U.D.—	}	JOINT HOSPITAL
BOROUGH OF MARGATE—BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.		

There is a Hospital consisting of a corrugated iron building, containing 16 beds, allowing 144 square feet floor space per patient, and managed by the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital Board. It is situated in the Urban District of Broadstairs and St. Peter's and in close proximity to the Joint Isolation Hospital, being separated from it by the disused Southern Railway line. It is close to the main Ramsgate-Margate road, and the population of the area surrounding it is steadily increasing. Two caretakers—a man and wife—live in the Hospital, and a trained Nurse on the staff of the Isolation Hospital is available at all times. The Medical Officer of the Joint Isolation Hospital attends the patients.

BRIDGE BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

In the Spring of 1935 a temporary agreement was arrived at between the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council and the Corporation of the Borough of Dover, similar to the one entered into between the Herne Bay Urban District Council and the Corporation, the contribution payable being £29 0s. 0d. annually.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

There is only one voluntary hospital situated in the United District for dealing with cases of illness and accident, and that is the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital at Herne Bay. Patients from the United District attend the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, the Ramsgate General Hospital and the Margate and District General Hospital. Patients suffering from disease of the ear, eye, nose and throat receive treatment at the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone, and also in the Hospitals mentioned above. Number of beds: Herne Bay Hospital, 34 beds; Kent and Canterbury Hospital, 181; and the Ramsgate and Margate Hospitals, 100 beds each.

QUEEN VICTORIA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, HERNE BAY.

The foundation stone of the new Herne Bay Hospital was laid by Mrs. Alexander Dence on the 26th September, 1935, and the Hospital was opened on the 23rd November, 1936, by Mr. Alexander Dence, the President, who stated that the amount required to pay for its erection had been almost completely raised. It is planned on the bungalow principle and will accommodate 34 patients' beds, 9 for men, 9 for women, 6 for children, and 10 for private patients. All the wards are on the ground floor; in the centre is the Administration Block and main entrance. There is a Casualty Block, also an X-ray Department, Operating Theatre Block with the usual accessories, and Central Heating. Ventilation is by special pattern hospital windows. On the upper floor are the rooms of the nursing and domestic staff.

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL.

The new Kent and Canterbury Hospital was opened on the 14th July, 1937, by His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent, K.G., K.T., accompanied by Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent. The main buildings are planned as a triangle, and will accommodate 181 patients. The Ground Floor consists of Children's and Private Patients' Wards facing the garden; the Out-Patients' Department, in the apex of the triangle; the special departments—Therapy, X-Ray, Massage, etc., in the centre; the Administrative Offices, with Staff, Patients' and Casualty entrances on the main north-west front; and the Kitchen and Stores, Dispensary and Ambulance Garage on the north-east front, opening to the Goods Court.

On the First Floor, the Theatre Block occupies the central space between the two Surgical Wards, and the Board Room, Lecture Room, Chapel, Laboratories, Porters' Rooms, Service and Dining Rooms, the north-east and north-west fronts.

On the Second Floor are the Medical, Ophthalmic, and Ear, Nose and Throat Wards; in the north block are the Matron's and Assistant Matron's rooms facing west, and the Resident Doctor's rooms facing east.

There is a Nurses' Home connected to the main building with a covered way: this contains five sitting-rooms and 97 bedrooms for the nursing and domestic staff.

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA.

There is no institution situated in the United District for the residential treatment of Tuberculosis provided by Local Authorities or the County Council, but there is a Sanatorium which was built and is maintained by the County Council at Lenham, in mid-Kent, having accommodation for 165 patients (90 male and 75 female). The patients suffering from Tuberculosis of bones and joints, as well as other cases of surgical Tuberculosis are admitted for treatment at the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate, where 40 beds are available.

The following Sanatoria and residential institutions approved by the Minister of Health for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis are situated in the District:—

Anthony and Anne Muller Convalescent Home and School, Broadstairs (for convalescent non-pulmonary cases in Jewish children only).

The Bishopsbourne Home, Broadstairs (for "intermediate" and afebrile cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in adult males only).

The Holy Cross Convalescent Home for Girls, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs (for non-pulmonary cases only, excluding bone and joint cases requiring orthopædic treatment).

The Old Manor House, Crow Hill, Broadstairs (for "intermediate" afebrile cases of pulmonary Tuberculosis in adult females only).

Tait Convalescent Home, Broadstairs (for convalescent "surgical" cases, females over 14 years of age only).

Victoria Convalescent Home, Broadstairs (for non-pulmonary cases in children only, from London County Council).

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 187, FORMERLY THE NURSING HOMES (REGISTRATION) ACT, 1927.

This Act came into force on the 1st July, 1928. All the powers and duties under the Act were transferred by the County Council to two of the three District Councils.

During the year 1937 in the Herne Bay Urban District one Nursing Home ceased to exist and the owner was re-registered in another house in September. Another Nursing Home ceased to exist in April, so that at the end of the year there were five Nursing Homes in the District.

In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District one new Nursing Home was registered and one was removed from the register by the Council at the owner's request; another Home was re-registered in the name of one of the partners, the other partner having left; so that at the end of the year there were 12 Nursing Homes on the register.

In the Bridge-Blean Rural District the provisions of the Act have not been delegated by the County Council to the Council of this District.

CONVALESCENT HOMES.

District.	Convalescent Homes.		Holiday Homes.	
	No.	Accommodation for about	No.	Accommodation for about
Herne Bay U.D.	8	599	8	315
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	12	1,115	4	122
Bridge-Blean R.D.	—	—	—	—

SCHOOLS.

The elementary schools in the United District are under the control of the Kent Education Committee. They are visited from time to time by the Medical Officer and Sanitary Inspectors, and the sanitary arrangements inspected; also investigations made with regard to cases of infectious disease occurring among the scholars.

There are many good class boarding schools situated in the United District, mostly of a preparatory nature, particularly in Broadstairs and St. Peter's. Most of them are provided with sanatoria in which scholars suffering from infectious diseases can be isolated. As far as is known the sanitary arrangements in connection with these schools and the water supply may be considered satisfactory. As a rule each school has its own medical attendant, who not only treats the pupils, but advises the principals on matters of hygiene. It does not appear that the Medical Officer of Health has any power of entry to these private boarding schools and therefore is not responsible for their sanitation. He can only deal with defects he may discover in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease or nuisance which may occur and require abating.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The importance of the provision of a pure milk supply for the United District has continued to be recognized and steps have been taken to ensure that the milk supplied to the inhabitants was of a reasonable standard of cleanliness, and for this purpose samples of "Ordinary" milk were sent for bacteriological examination, and numerous visits were paid to the Dairies and Cowsheds during the year by the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspectors.

Samples of Graded Milk were sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination in order to see whether the milk, as produced and sold, conformed with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Samples of milk were also sent to the Laboratory for examination to discover by means of tests whether or not Tubercle Bacilli were present.

"ACCREDITED" MILK.

A scheme for the payment of bonuses on milk produced under a "Grade A" licence issued by the County Council came into operation on the 1st May, 1935; those who produce milk under this scheme are called "Accredited Producers." Approval of the premises in the first place is left to the County Agricultural Organizer, and bacteriological examinations of the milk are made quarterly at the County Bacteriological Laboratory. Samples of the milk are taken by the Sanitary Inspectors in the districts and forwarded to Maidstone, and meetings between the County Agricultural Organizer and the Sanitary Inspector in each district have been arranged.

It is very necessary that the officials of the County Council and those of the District Councils should work together, because the responsibility of carrying out the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, rests with the District Councils.

At the end of the year the following producers were licensed as "Accredited" Milk Producers:—

Herne Bay Urban District	...	...	...	4
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District	...			3
Bridge-Blean Rural District	...	...	...	30

MILK SUPPLY IN SCHOOLS.

Since the 1st October, 1934, one-third of a pint of milk has been supplied to school children at a cost of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per bottle.

The Kent Education Committee, through their Schools, are purchasers of large quantities of milk, and it has been decided that every possible precaution should be taken to ensure that it is of good quality.

Samples of school milk are sent to the County Laboratory by the School Inquiry Officers.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	143	131	—
Diphtheria	6	6	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	—
Puerperal Fever	4	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	—
Pneumonia	96	16	23
Erysipelas	8	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	1	2
Poliomyelitis	2	2	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Malaria	1	1	—
Chickenpox	255	—	—
Total	521	164	26

The total deaths given are not the net deaths.

“ Return ” cases—13 Scarlet Fever.

The following table gives the number of cases of Diphtheria treated in the Isle of Thanet Joint Hospital during the past four years with the Mortality:

31st March.	Cases Treated.	Mortality.
1934	... 64	... 1.5 Per Cent.
1935	... 145	... 5.8 ..
1936	... 74	... 5.4 ..
1937	... 40	... 7.5 ..

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, nor under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, nor Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in the United District.

TUBERCULOSIS: NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	2	1	2	...	...	...	...
5 ... ..	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...
15	3	4	1	1	1	2	...	...
25	7	8	...	2	...	4	...	...
35	10	4	1	1	2	1	...	...
45	6	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
55	3	5	...	...	3	4	...	...
65 and upwards	4	3	...	...	3	2	...	...
Total	34	28	6	6	12	13	...	...

Included in the above totals are 6 cases (Pulmonary) which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer through the Death Returns. The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is 6 to 25.

NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS REMAINING ON THE REGISTERS OF THE THREE DISTRICTS ON 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

District.	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Herne Bay U.D.	24	24	11	16
Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D. ..	33	25	9	15
Bridge-Blean R.D.	24	17	12	12
Total	81	66	32	43

HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (including inland water)	8,566	acres
Population, 1937 (Registrar General)	16,030	
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books	5,593	
Rateable Value (end of 1937)	£165,651	
Sum Represented by 1d. Rate	£629	

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.		Herne Bay U.D.	England & Wales
Live Births—	154	88	66	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	9.60	14.9
Legitimate	142	82	60			
Illegitimate	12	6	6			
Stillbirths—	9	7	2	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.	55.21	Not available
Deaths—	246	113	133	Death rate per 1,000 of the resident population.	15.34	12.4
				Adjusted Death Rate	11.35	

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):

No.		Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births		
No. 29.	Puerperal sepsis ...	Nil	—	0.94	
No. 30.	Other Puerperal causes	1	6.13	2.17	
	Total ...	1	6.13	3.11	

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	45	58
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	42	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	83	

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	47
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH IN HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1937.

	Males	Females
All Causes	113	133
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
2. Measles	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Influenza	4	8
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1
8. Cerebrospinal Fever	—	—
9. Respiratory Tuberculosis	3	3
10. Other Tuberculosis	—	—
11. Syphilis	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane	1	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	18	29
14. Diabetes	—	3
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	10	8
16. Heart Disease	26	36
17. Aneurysm	1	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	7	3
19. Bronchitis	2	4
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	5	6
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
22. Peptic Ulcer	1	—
23. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	—	—
24. Appendicitis	2	1
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	2	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	1	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases	4	4
28. Nephritis	2	3
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
30. Other Puerperal Causes	—	1
31. Congenital Causes, etc.	1	1
32. Senility	5	7
33. Suicide	—	2
34. Other Violence	4	4
35. Other Defined Causes	12	8
36. Ill-defined Causes	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above):		
Smallpox	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE.

*Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

*Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

*Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (Parts 2 to 10 inc.).

*Public Health Act, 1925.

*Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, Section 6.

*(Certain Sections of these Acts were repealed by the Public Health Act, 1936).

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS, 1899-1923.

In addition to the foregoing, the Council exercise the powers contained in the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.

BYE-LAWS, REGULATIONS AND ORDERS, RELATING TO:

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.
Nuisances.
Slaughter-houses.
Houses let in Lodgings.
Common Lodging-houses.
Offensive Trades.
New Streets and Buildings.
Nursing Home Regulations.
Regulations for Underground Sleeping Rooms.
Infectious Diseases Order, Chickenpox.
Removal of House Refuse.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

Action taken during the year under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927, and the Public Health Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of applications for registration	...	1
(2)	Number of Homes registered	...	1
(3)	Number of orders made refusing or, cancelling registration	... ..	—
(4)	Number of appeals against such orders	...	—
(5)	Number of cases in which such orders have been		
	(a) Confirmed on appeal	... ..	—
	(b) Disallowed	... ..	—
(6)	Number of applications for exemption from registration	... ..	—
(7)	Number of Exemption Certificates renewed	...	3
(8)	Number of cases in which exemption has been		
	(a) Granted	... ..	—
	(b) Withdrawn	... ..	—
	(c) Refused	... ..	—

At the end of the year there were five Nursing Homes on the Register. Four of the Homes take maternity and other cases and one Home takes maternity cases only. The total number of beds in the Nursing Homes are made up as follows:—

Maternity—7. Others—13.

The Homes were visited from time to time during the year by the Medical Officer of Health.

Forty-six of the births in the Urban District took place in three Nursing Homes.

MORTUARY.

The Public Mortuary is situated in the yard at the Town Depot. The room is 14 feet by 12 feet, and forms part of a range of lean-to buildings, originally constructed for stores. The room is fitted with a sink and water tap, and a copper for hot water. The floor is constructed of cement, with a drain in the centre. Two tables with metallic tops (one zinc and one lead) are provided.

METEOROLOGICAL STATION.

The site of the station is in the War Memorial Park, which was approved by the Air Ministry. The usual instruments are kept at the station, viz., a maximum and minimum thermometer, wet and dry bulb hygrometer, a rain gauge and sunshine recorder. At the Pier is kept the Fortins Standard Barometer. The station is in charge of the Surveyor and the Pier Superintendent prepares the necessary reports, etc., and sends daily telegrams which are accepted for inclusion in the daily press bulletins. The total sunshine recorded for the year was 1,563 hours, and the rainfall 31.7 inches.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH INQUIRY.

A Public Inquiry was held on the 7th April into an application of the Urban District Council for consent to borrow £31,000 for Works of Sea Defence at East Cliff. The Inquiry was held by G. H. Thiselton-Dyer, Esq., M.Inst.C.E., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal proceedings were taken before the Magistrates against the owner of No. 3, Gorse Lane, for failure to comply with a Statutory Notice requiring abatement of a nuisance: works were satisfactorily completed before the Court was held and the complaint was withdrawn upon payment of £1 1s. 0d. costs.

PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

The Public Conveniences came under the control of the Health Committee in April, 1937, and it is the duty of the Sanitary Inspector to supervise the conveniences and staff. He is assisted by a lady supervisor of the convenience for females and during the year she made 921 inspections.

There are ten public conveniences owned by the Urban District Council, some of which have full-time attendants. A further 31 conveniences, to which the public have access, belong to licensed premises and at four of these the Council undertake the lighting and daily cleansing.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

Water is supplied to the Urban District by the Herne Bay Waterworks Company. A constant supply is available. The sources of supply are three deep wells, situated at Ford, in the Urban District, about two miles out of the town. The wells are 170 feet deep, sunk into solid chalk; they are connected at a point 15 feet from the lowest part in the chalk. Adits of a total length of about 2,000 feet are cut into the chalk in various directions. At the beginning of the year 1933 it was found that a Paterson's Chloronome had been installed in November, 1932.

The water is pumped from Ford direct to the reservoirs at Mickleburgh Hill, in the Urban District. One reservoir is of modern construction, and is built of cement concrete and domed over in cement, and further protected with a layer of earth averaging two feet in thickness. The size of the reservoir is 100 feet by 80 feet, and 15 feet deep, and the

In 1936 a new trunk sewer was constructed to deal with the greater portion of the area south of the Southern Railway lying between Thornden Wood Road, Western Lane and Greenhill Road. This sewer has its outlet at the Westbrook Pumping Station and follows the existing brook to Weston Road and passes along Weston Road to Greenhill Road. Its immediate effect has been to deal with the new Greenhill Grove Estate. In 1937 six unmade private streets in this area were seweraged both for foul and surface water and the existing cesspools abolished.

On the 28th July, 1937, the Council adopted the recommendation of the Law and General Purposes Committee that Messrs. Howard Humphreys and Sons, of 17, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, report upon the sewerage of the whole Urban area as it now exists, together with advice as to what should be the Council's general future policy, and give an estimate of the cost of those steps which should be taken now.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

During the year action was taken to prevent the pollution of Hampton Brook by fine particles of grit and a certain amount of oil, which is believed to have emanated from the Herne Bay Gasworks.

The incandescent coke, after it leaves the retorts, is quenched by application of water, and during this process the water passing over the coke picks up fine particles. This "quenching" water passes into a drain which discharges into Hampton Brook, and over a period of years the bed of the brook has become silted with fine particles of coke, but was thoroughly dug out and silt removed during the summer of 1937.

A breeze filter has been constructed by the Gas Company, through which the "quenching" water must pass before entering the brook. At the end of the year negotiations were still in progress with the Company with a view to diverting the quenching water into the sewer.

The work of securing the cleansing and regrading of ditches in the district has proceeded, and has resulted in the cleansing and regrading of 22 ditches during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

During the year, 53 houses previously served by cesspools were connected to the sewer and the cesspools abolished. A further 18 houses previously served by pail closets were provided with drainage systems connected to the sewer and the pail closets abolished.

In addition 9 previously disused cesspools were abolished by the owners upon service of notices.

At the end of the year the approximate number of each type of sanitary convenience in the Urban District was:—

W.C's. into drainage system	...	...	6,479
W.C's. into cesspools	...	...	77
Pail Closets	...	...	92

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The house refuse is collected bi-weekly (with the exception of the area in the centre of the Town and from Hotels, Boarding Houses, etc., where a daily collection is made). Two 10 cubic yard "Thornycroft" dustless and low loading vehicles and two tipping carts are in continual

use. In the old Parishes of Herne and Reculver the refuse is collected by Contract, the Council providing two covered refuse collection carts.

The average weekly amounts of refuse collected during the winter is 310 cubic yards; during the summer months it becomes necessary to augment the whole rolling stock by the use of a six-ton "Fordson" and trailer for the collection of trade refuse.

All the refuse is tipped on a site near Broomfield, approximately three miles from the centre of the Town and covered with soil, on controlled tipping lines.

The emptying of cesspools in the portion of the Blean Rural District, which was added to the Herne Bay Urban District in 1934, is carried out, as is the refuse collection, under the supervision of the Surveyor. A motor cesspool exhauster fitted with gulley emptying and flushing apparatus is used for dealing with the cesspools where the ground is sufficiently hard to withstand this vehicle and elsewhere by means of a horse-drawn cart and hand-operated pump.

The number of cesspools now emptied is 96 and negotiations are in hand to abolish a certain number of these. The contents of all cesspools are emptied into public sewers.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following are the particulars supplied to the Medical Officer of Health by the Sanitary Inspector with regard to the sanitary inspection of the area: —

(a) The number and nature of inspections made during the year:

Dwelling-houses inspected for defects under the Housing and Public Health Acts	...	...	...	156
Re-inspections to supervise repairs in progress	...	...	...	667
Council Houses inspected to ensure cleanliness	...	...	...	80
Houses Measured to ascertain "permitted number"	...	...	...	200
Overcrowding inspections and re-inspections	...	...	...	17
Houses inspected in connection with Children's Country Holiday Homes	...	...	...	16
Disinfestation, inspections and re-inspections	...	...	...	95
Visits made to remedy dirty conditions in privately-owned dwellings	...	...	...	7
Visits made in connection with well water supplies	...	...	...	47
Visits and re-visits to secure abolition of cesspools	...	...	...	170
Visits and re-visits to secure abolition of pail closets	...	...	...	68
Infectious Disease enquiries	...	...	...	98
Visits to arrange disinfection	...	...	...	47
Disinfection of rooms and bedding carried out	...	...	...	251
Butchers' Shops inspected and re-inspected	...	...	...	72
Dairies and Cowsheds inspected and re-inspected	...	...	...	276
Milk samples taken and submitted to County Laboratory	...	...	...	85
Milk examined on the highway for sediment	...	...	...	25
Visits to premises registered to sell milk in sealed receptacles only	...	...	...	52
Ice Cream Premises inspected	...	...	...	25
Slaughterhouses and meat inspection	...	...	...	410
Inspection and re-inspection of bakehouses	...	...	...	55
Inspection of miscellaneous food-preparing places	...	...	...	15
Factories and Workshops (excluding bakehouses)	...	...	...	14

capacity 750,000 gallons. A second reservoir (the original reservoir of the Water Company) was reconstructed in 1937; it is constructed of cement concrete, domed over in cement and covered with a layer of earth two feet in thickness, similar to the existing large reservoir. It has a capacity of 350,000 gallons, which added to the 750,000 gallons of the existing reservoir, gives a total storage capacity of 1,100,000 gallons.

A water tower constructed of steel is erected at the reservoir station at Mickleburgh Hill, for the purpose of maintaining a constant supply of water to the houses situated on high ground which cannot be supplied from the reservoirs. The tower supports a tank 30 feet in diameter and 12 feet deep, of a capacity of 60,000 gallons. The height of the tower above ground level to water level is 78 feet, the height of the water level above sea level being 201 feet. The tank is filled from the reservoirs by auxiliary pumps.

The average daily consumption of water for the whole area supplied by the Water Company is:

Summer	...	...	...	...	700,000 gallons
Winter	...	...	...	...	400,000 gallons

Samples of water were taken from the mains quarterly and sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination and the reports all showed an absence of bacillus coli in 100ccs. and were stated to be "good water." Samples were also taken and sent to the County Analyst for chemical analysis and the reports of the County Analyst showed the water was of excellent organic quality.

In November the Manager of the Herne Bay Water Company informed the Medical Officer of Health that his Company were taking samples of the water supply weekly for bacteriological examination; that the reports were good, but that in the event of any sign of contamination steps would at once be taken to chlorinate the water.

At Herne Common the water is pumped into elevated tanks, from whence it gravitates to the houses to be served in that area. At one period during the year it was found that a sample of water obtained from a house supplied via the tanks was not of a satisfactory bacterial standard and coliform bacillus was present in 30 c.c. of the water. On investigation it was found that the tanks were uncovered beneath a roof and that birds gained access and there was no doubt that contamination of the water by bird droppings was taking place: the tanks were thoroughly cleaned out and properly covered. Subsequent samples from this source proved the water to be of the same high standard of purity as that of the remainder of the town supply.

A portion of the Urban District is not provided with a main water supply and approximately 94 houses in this area are served by means of wells and rainwater stored in underground tanks. There now remain 47 wells in the District, five unfit wells have been closed during the year and the dwelling-houses previously served by them provided with a piped supply direct from the main. At the end of 1937 negotiations for the closure of a further two polluted wells were nearing completion and the eight dwelling-houses concerned will soon be provided with a piped supply direct from the main.

Reports received during the year upon samples from these supplies show the following results:—

No. of samples sent for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis	...	...	60
No. not of a good bacteriological standard	...	...	16
No. which failed on chemical analysis	...	...	9

One dwelling-house supplied with water from a polluted well was closed for human habitation: works carried out at a well and at a spring to protect against contamination have improved the conditions of the water.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The scheme for the sewerage of the old Urban District was prepared and carried out by the late Mr. Baldwin Latham, and a large portion of the urban area was sewered under his supervision. The sewage is carried by gravitation to an outfall which discharges into the sea at a point below low water mark, the outlet not being exposed at any time. A separate system for dealing with surface water exists for the greater part of the area, and this system is being extended. A pumping station situated in the centre of the town and near the seashore is provided for the purpose of preventing flooding of cellars and basements during heavy rains when the sewers are tide locked. There is a second pumping station at the western end of the town lifting the sewage from a low level sewer at that end of the district to the high level gravitation sewer.

During 1935 a new underground pumping station at the land end of the sea outfall was constructed, in which have been housed electrically-driven disintegrating pumps to enable three or four times the dry weather flow to be disintegrated before discharge, and to empty the tank sewers in about one-tenth of the time that this could be effected by gravitation.

A joint system of sewerage and sewage disposal for that part of the Urban District which formerly consisted of the parishes of Herne and Reculver of the Blean Rural District, was provided by the Council of that district and completed in the year 1914, and takes the drainage of the most thickly-populated portion of that area. The sewage disposal works are situated at May Street, in the parish of Reculver, and consist of grit chambers, Dibdin slate beds, Humus tanks, contact clinker beds, and finally effluent ponds, from which the discharge is into an open water-course which eventually discharges into the sea.

Many improvements have been carried out on these works. The air compressing engines have been overhauled, and improvements to the Detritus chambers have been carried out. New sludge drying beds have been constructed, etc. The Council are considering the advisability of reconstructing these works.

A new low-lying drainage area to take the newly-developed Bishopstone Manor Estate, and the drainage from certain private streets now developing in this area, was constructed in 1936, and a compressed air ejector station to lift the sewage from this area into the sewers gravitating to the Herne and Reculver Sewage Disposal Works was installed. The low-lying drainage area, in which is situated Lower Broomfield Road and Gorse Lane, was dealt with in a similar manner.

Shops Acts inspections and re-inspections	...	...	245
Female Domestic Servants Registry Offices	...	...	12
Under Petroleum Acts	...	...	23
To secure removal of accumulations	...	...	45
Stables, inspections and re-inspections	...	...	19
Piggeries, inspections and re-inspections	...	...	16
Drains tested (existing and newly constructed)	...	...	43
Visits and re-visits to secure cleansing of ditches	...	...	133
Visits to supervise public conveniences	...	...	271
Under Rat and Mice (Destruction) Act	...	...	209
Tents, Vans and Sheds (including organized holiday camps)	...	...	150
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	5
To secure abatement of smoke nuisances	...	...	3
Interviews to secure compliance with various sanitary requirements	...	...	618
Total	...	...	4740

(b) The Number of Notices served:

Statutory Notices	...	...	35
Informal Notices	...	...	444
Total	...	...	479

(c) The result of the service of such Notices:

Surface water drainage provided	...	...	2
Drains repaired or relaid	...	...	16
Drains unstopped	...	...	13
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	3
Sanitary accommodation defects remedied	...	...	29
Soil pipes and drain ventilation pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	18
Insanitary sinks renewed	...	...	30
Sink and bath waste pipes trapped	...	...	25
Cesspools dealt with	...	...	79
Sink waste soakaways abolished	...	...	5
Pail Closets abolished and premises connected to the sewer	...	...	18
Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	28
Rainwater spouts and eavesgutters repaired or renewed	...	...	26
Dampness remedied	...	...	55
Sub-floor ventilation provided or improved	...	...	6
Brickwork renewed or repaired	...	...	5
Rooms cleansed and re-decorated	...	...	58
Height and ventilation of staircases and rooms improved	...	...	4
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	42
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	21
Window panes renewed or repaired	...	...	28
Sashcords renewed	...	...	18
Doors repaired	...	...	13
Stoves and firegrates repaired or renewed	...	...	16
Coppers repaired	...	...	6
Handrails provided to staircases	...	...	3
Stairtreads renewed	...	...	3
Dustbins provided	...	...	17
Overcrowding abated	...	...	9
Defective chimney stacks repaired	...	...	3
Houses disinfested: Cyanide	...	...	6
„ „ Cescones	...	...	10

Foodstores provided	...	...	...	...	1
Yards paved	...	...	...	...	16
Water tanks cleansed	...	...	...	...	3
Polluted wells closed and properties connected to main supply					5
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed			...	...	11
Food Preparing Places:					
Butchers' shops cleansed	...	...	...	...	2
Bakehouses cleansed and sanitary conditions improved					9
Cowsheds and Dairies:					
Structural improvements to cowsheds	...	...	...	...	8
Steam sterilization plant provided	...	...	...	...	1
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	20
Nuisances abated in connection with the keeping of animals					6
Nuisances abated in connection with public urinals				...	5
Miscellaneous defects remedied	...	...	...	...	30
Rat complaints dealt with	...	...	...	...	188
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	3
Nuisances abated arising from tents, vans, etc.	...	...	...	...	27
Ditches cleansed	...	...	...	...	22
Total					972

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories: (Including Factory Laundries) ..	5	—	—
Workshops: (Including Workshop Laundries)	64	4	—
Workplaces: (Other than Out-workers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	69	4	—

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	No. of Defects.			Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:				
Want of cleanliness ..	5	3	—	—
Other nuisances ..	33	9	—	—
Sanitary accommodation—Insufficient ..	1	—	—	—
Total	39	12	—	—

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

During the year the Sanitary Inspector made 245 inspections and re-inspections of shops in conjunction with inspections for the general administration of the Shops Acts.

Five shops were found to be without sufficient sanitary accommodation or sufficient washing facilities and notices were served requiring the necessary provision.

At the end of the year work was in progress at four of the premises; in addition, improvements to existing sanitary conveniences and washing facilities have been required at a further 11 shops.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Emission of black smoke has been observed at various times from the chimney of a local laundry where there is a boiler fuelled with low grade bituminous coal. Some improvement has been effected by insisting upon improved methods of stoking, but the only permanent solution of the problem with the existing boiler will be the use of a smokeless fuel, such as coke.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no swimming baths or pools in the Urban District. At the Council's Bathing Establishment care is taken to disinfect the costumes which are let on hire to bathers.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the year a total of 16 verminous houses were dealt with, including 5 Council houses.

The five bug-infested Council houses were disinfested by the application of cyanide, the work being carried out by the Sanitary Inspector in conjunction with Fumigation Services, Ltd., of London. In all houses treated with cyanide the results were completely satisfactory and not a trace of bugs has since been seen.

The remaining 11 houses found to be bug infested were privately owned and one of these was disinfested by means of cyanide. The other 10 were fumigated with cescones, which the Sanitary Inspector regards as the next best remedy when cyanide cannot be applied. In such instances two fumigations are recommended with a lapse of fourteen days between each. This work is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector's Assistant.

The furniture and effects of all incoming Council house tenants are inspected before removal for evidence of vermin, and in future, when such evidence is found, treatment by cyanide will be advised.

Council houses which have been disinfested are visited regularly every three months to detect possible re-infestation, and the tenants have been informed that they will receive notice to quit if they again permit their dwellings to become bug infested.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Powers and duties under this Act have been delegated to the Urban District Council, and during the year 209 rat complaints have been dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector. During National Rat Week a window

display of stuffed rats and methods of exterminating rats was held in a shop in Mortimer Street. During this week red squill was supplied free on application to 65 persons, the refuse tip and sewers were baited and copies of the Ministry's bulletin on Rat Destruction were distributed.

An essay competition dealing with the rat menace was promoted in conjunction with the Head Teachers of the Elementary Schools and seven prizes were awarded for the best essays submitted by the children.

An article was inserted in the local newspaper and it was found that much interest was aroused in the problem of rat destruction. The large number of enquiries which are still received shows that this interest has been maintained.

SCHOOLS.

There are four public elementary schools in the Urban District: The Herne Bay Council School, consisting of three departments—Boys, Girls' and Infants'; Herne C/E School; Reculver C/E School and St. Mary's Catholic School. The last three mentioned Schools are mixed Girls' and Boys' Schools.

At all the Schools the sanitary accommodation consists of water closets and the drainage is connected to the sewers. The water supply is laid on from the mains of the Herne Bay Waterworks Company.

There are two large private boarding schools in the Urban District, where the sanitary conditions are of a satisfactory character; and also a number of smaller private schools, principally carried on at private dwelling-houses.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	156
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	823
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	108
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	644
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	6
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	145

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	58
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3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	7
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	48
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4—HOUSING ACT 1936—PART IV—OVERCROWDING.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year		7
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein		7
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein		59
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year		—
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year		9
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...		73
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...		—
(e) Any other particulars with respect to over-crowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report:—		

Under Section 5 of the Act power is given to a Local Authority to authorise the temporary use of a house by persons in excess of the permitted number, and for this purpose may grant a licence to the occupier or intending occupier of a dwelling-house in their District. This licence shall continue in force for a period not exceeding twelve months, or may be revoked by the Local Authority at their discretion. This appears to be an important provision affecting seaside towns where many occupiers take in visitors during the season.

A representation was made in April with regard to a house which was considered to be unfit for human habitation.

Six houses for which a Clearance Order was made in 1935, were demolished during the second quarter of the year. These were shown on the Programme of Housing sent to the Ministry of Health.

Eight houses for which a Clearance Order was made in 1935, were demolished during the summer. These were shown on the Programme of Housing sent to the Ministry of Health.

Representations were made in July in respect of two houses, for a portion of each house which was considered to be unfit for human habitation. A Closing Order was made in September with regard to one of these representations.

A house represented as unfit in April, 1936, was re-conditioned in July, 1937, an undertaking for this work having been accepted in October, 1936.

Representations were made in October in respect of three cottages at Reculver, to be dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

An undertaking was accepted by the Council in November with regard to a portion of a house represented in July, the work was completed in December.

At the end of the year a block of five houses to be dealt with by means of a Clearance Order, which had been entered on the Programme of Housing sent to the Ministry of Health, were under the consideration of the Public Health Committee.

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	180
(i) By the local authority	...	...	...	...	14
(ii) By other bodies and persons	...	...	...	...	166

TOWN PLANNING.

At the Annual Meeting in 1934 the Council appointed a Town Planning Committee to continue the work begun by the Herne Bay Joint Town Planning Committee, of preparing a Town Planning Scheme for the enlarged Urban District of Herne Bay, and the first meeting of the newly constituted Committee was held on the 20th April, 1934.

Steady progress has been made with the work, and on the 18th September, 1935, the Committee submitted a report to the Council containing recommendations for the preparation of the Draft Scheme. This report was approved by the Council and instructions were given for the Draft Scheme to be prepared on the lines of the Committee's report.

Some of the most important provisions of the Draft Scheme are those prohibiting the development of unsuitable land, which will prevent dwellings being erected in positions where the public health services are difficult to provide, while the Draft Scheme (which had to be adopted by the 1st October, 1936) also provides for zoning the district in areas which are most suitable for, e.g., Special Residential, General Business, General Industrial and Agricultural purposes, while these areas themselves are zoned for density. Another important provision is the setting aside of suitable land for specific purposes, e.g., Cemeteries, Allotments and Public Open Spaces, whilst provision is also made for new roads and improvements to existing roads.

It was reported in February, 1937, that the preparation of the Draft Scheme had reached the position that the map was as complete as possible and was deposited at the Council Offices for inspection by members of the Council.

At the meeting of the Council held on the 28th July, the Draft Scheme in connection with the preparation of the Planning Scheme was adopted.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

During the year 27 gipsy caravans were removed and this entailed 150 visits by the Sanitary Inspector and his assistant.

The Abbotswood Estate, which used to be a favourite camping ground, has been fenced to exclude gipsies, but they continue to pay frequent visits to vacant land in the vicinity of the Isolation Hospital, where they are a considerable annoyance to residents in the vicinity and cause much trouble.

HOLIDAY CAMPS.

There was a considerable increase during the summer season in the number of organized camps. Camping is officially encouraged in connection with the National Fitness Campaign, but there is need for great vigilance to secure satisfactory sanitary and other requirements.

The Health Committee propose to recommend the Urban District Council to take advantage of their power to license camping grounds so that proper sanitation, water supply, washing facilities and arrangements for the disposal of domestic refuse and refuse water may be insisted upon.

The camps were visited periodically by the Sanitary Inspector and his assistant during the year.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY: MILK AND DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922.

The number of persons and premises registered by the Urban District Council at the close of the year was as follows:—

Dairy Farms	...	...	...	...	20
Producers of Milk	...	...	...	...	20
Retail purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	...	21
Retailers of Milk from outside the District	...	...	...	...	1
Retailers of Milk in sealed receptacles only	...	...	...	...	27

Two dairy farms have discontinued to be used for milk production; and one dairy farm has been brought back into use after a lapse of two years, the cowsheds and dairy being reconditioned. Two dairy farms changed hands during the year.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

The Sanitary Inspector made 276 inspections of the cowsheds and dairies and 11 notices were served upon cow-keepers to secure improvement of these. At the close of the year the following improvements had been carried out:—

- (a) The drains of one dairy were diverted from a pond and connected to the sewer.
- (b) At two dairies steam sterilization plants were provided.
- (c) The following improvements were made to cowsheds:—
 - (i) Dung channel provided.
 - (ii) The standings of a cowshed were reduced to 5 feet, to prevent the soiling of the cows' udders.
 - (iii) Unsatisfactory mangers were abolished and new concrete mangers constructed.
 - (iv) Unsatisfactory wood partitions between cow standings were abolished in a cowshed and replaced by tubular bar partitions.
 - (v) The use of an unsatisfactory cowshed and dairy was discontinued and plans received for the construction of a new cowshed and dairy.
 - (vi) In another instance plans were also received for the construction of a new cowshed and dairy, after which the use of the existing unsatisfactory cowshed and dairy will be discontinued.

MILK FOR SALE IN SEALED RECEPTACLES ONLY.

There are 27 retailers of milk registered to sell milk in sealed receptacles only: in most instances these registered retailers are the occupiers of general stores, whose premises are unsuitable for registration as dairies.

It is a condition of registration of such retailers that they shall sell the milk in sealed receptacles as received from the supplier, and shall retain the milk in a refrigerator, icebox, or insulated chamber until sold. The Bladen Dairy Company have agreed to supply their retailers in Herne Bay with insulated chambers.

EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES.

The Sanitary Inspector took 79 samples of milk and sent them to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination; of this number 26 were taken under the Accredited Milk Scheme at the request of the County Medical Officer, 21 complied with the prescribed conditions and 5 did not comply. Three samples were of "Tuberculin Tested" milk, two of these being satisfactory and one unsatisfactory. Three samples of "Pasteurized" milk were taken from a Children's Convalescent Home, of milk produced outside the District and three samples of "Pasteurized" milk produced within the District: these were all found

to comply with the prescribed conditions with the exception of one, which did not comply. Forty-four samples of "Ordinary" milk were taken, and of these 27 were satisfactory and 17 unsatisfactory. Appropriate action followed in the case of the unsatisfactory reports.

Thirty-nine reports were received on samples of milk sent to the County Laboratory during the year for examination for tubercle, three of these were on samples of milk produced outside the District and delivered to one of the Convalescent Homes. All the reports gave negative results.

PRODUCTION OF MILK OF SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS.

There are four "Accredited" milk producers in the Urban District and two producers of "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

SCHOOL MILK.

Fourteen samples of School Milk were sent to the County Laboratory by the School Inquiry Officer for bacteriological examination, and these all proved to be satisfactory. Three samples were also examined for Tubercle, two gave negative results and one positive. With regard to the latter the necessary steps were taken by the County Veterinary Officer.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The licences issued in pursuance of this Order and which were in force during 1937, were as follows:—

Licence to bottle "Tuberculin Tested" milk	...	...	1
Licence to bottle "Accredited" milk	...	...	1
Dealers' licences to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	7
Dealer's licence to use the designation "Pasteurized"	...	...	1

Dairymen are constantly being urged to instal steam sterilization plants: there are now 12 dairies within the Urban District which are equipped with steam sterilization facilities.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are three licensed slaughterhouses within the Urban District and 423 Notices of slaughter were received from the five butchers who slaughter at these places.

The 1,545 animals slaughtered were all inspected by the Sanitary Inspector after slaughter and many of them were also seen before slaughter. The following meat was found to be diseased and was surrendered and destroyed by burning at the Gas Works, by the courtesy of the Manager of the Herne Bay Gas Company.

Tuberculosis:	30 pigs' heads	...	...	300 lbs.
	18 pigs' livers	...	...	54 lbs.
	21 pigs' mesenteries	...	...	21 lbs.
Other diseases:	Entire carcase and organs of a pig (emaciation associated with acute peritonitis)			64 lbs.
	1 pig's kidney (nephritis)	...	...	1 lb.
	2 pigs' livers (cirrhosis)	...	...	6 lbs.
Total weight of diseased meat				446 lbs.

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, two slaughtermen have been licensed during the year, in addition to the ten slaughtermen previously licensed by the Council.

Seventy-two inspections and re-inspections of butchers' shops have been made by the Sanitary Inspector and special attention paid to the conditions under which sausages are manufactured.

The following table gives particulars of the carcasses inspected and condemned:—

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	2	—	71	523	949
Number inspected ...	2	—	71	523	949
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis :</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	.421%
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	3.16%

BAKEHOUSES.

The 19 bakehouses in the Urban District are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector as required by the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901. It was necessary in five instances to require cleansing and limewashing; and at a further five hygienic improvements were secured by alteration of sanitary fittings. Several bakehouses in the District are not well arranged and have furnaces which have to be refuelled from within the bakehouse, which does not promote cleanliness. During the year three bakehouses were closed down.

FISH FRIERS.

The trade of fish frier is scheduled as an "Offensive Trade" in the Urban District of Herne Bay and is controlled by Byelaws. The consent of the Council is necessary to the establishment of any new business. Five persons are registered as fish friers and their premises are subject to inspection at frequent intervals.

ICE CREAM.

Ice cream is manufactured at 13 premises in the district and these are subject to frequent inspections during the summer season. In addition, ice cream obtained from large wholesale manufacturers is sold at 30 premises.

The Sanitary Inspector writes as follows:—

"There is at present no legal standard controlling the composition of ice cream, with the result that its constituents vary considerably. The draft of the new Food and Drugs Bill proposes compulsory registration of premises where ice cream is manufactured and gives power for regulations to be made. It is hoped that advantage will be taken of this power to enforce a legal standard of fat content and a legal bacteriological standard for ice cream to ensure uniformity."

During the summer season 20 samples were taken by the Sanitary Inspector and sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination; nine of these were considered satisfactory and 11 unsatisfactory.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

The law with respect to the Adulteration of Food and the Food Regulations is administered by the County Council and not by the Urban District Council.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

All Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food done in connection with the Herne Bay Urban District is carried out at the County Laboratory, Maidstone.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

SUPPLY OF SERUM.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for the use of the poorer inhabitants of the district in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910." A supply is kept at the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital.

VERMINOUS PERSONS.

There are no facilities for the cleansing of verminous persons in the District. Clothing, however, can be disinfected at the Disinfecting Station.

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year 43 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, 25 in eighteen private families, 16 in three Convalescent Homes, one a member of a School Party visiting the District in the summer, and one a member of the staff at the Isolation Hospital. Eight of the patients were adults. Twenty-five of the patients were removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment; thirteen were removed to one of the Fever Hospitals of the London County Council; and five were isolated and treated at home, four of these being in one family. There were three "Return" cases in one family. Two cases in another family, who were visitors to the District, were apparently due to their sister who had been discharged from Dartford Isolation Hospital during their holiday at Herne Bay. Two other cases were also visitors to the District, one of these being a girl whose brother had been discharged from an Isolation Hospital after suffering from Scarlet Fever just previous to their holiday at Herne Bay.

An additional case of Scarlet Fever was notified, the patient being a young man serving in the Royal Navy, who was home on leave from Chatham, where probably he contracted the complaint, and so he was removed to the Chatham Naval Hospital.

DIPHTHERIA.

Two cases of Diphtheria were notified, one in a Children's Convalescent Home, who was removed to the London County Council's Fever Hospital, and the other in a private family, who was removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Two cases of Encephalitis Lethargica were notified in the Urban District, one a woman of 59 years of age and the other a man of 58 years of age; the former patient was removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment. Both patients unfortunately died.

POLIOMYELITIS

One case of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis was notified, a girl of 10 years of age, a visitor to one of the Schools; she apparently had contracted the disease before coming to Herne Bay and was removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

There was one case of Puerperal Fever notified and the patient was removed to the Herne Bay and Whitstable Joint Isolation Hospital.

CHICKENPOX.

A small outbreak of Chickenpox occurred at the beginning of the year in the Infants' Department of the Elementary School.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the first quarter of the year there were outbreaks of Influenza and Whooping Cough in connection with the Infants' Department of the Elementary School.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	43	38	—
Diphtheria	2	2	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	54	1	10
Erysipelas	3	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	1	2
Poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Total	106	45	12

"Return" Cases—3 Scarlet Fever (in one family).

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS, 1937.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...	1	1	1	2	3	17	12	2	2	1	2	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	1	4	4	2	—	7	—	—	3	6	19	8
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2	4	5	4	3	25	14	2	5	9	24	9

Year.	Private Families.		Boarding Schools, Convalescent Homes, etc.	
	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
1937.	25 in 18 Families.	1	16 in 3 Homes 1 in a School Party 1 Hospital Staff	1

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
25	3	4	—	1	—	1	—	—
35	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	1	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
65 and upwards	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	11	13	1	2	3	3	—	—

Included in the foregoing is one case (Pulmonary) which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the Death Returns. The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is 1 to 6.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate for Herne Bay Urban District for the year 1937 was .37 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

HERNE BAY AND DISTRICT TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.

This Committee has continued to increase its activities during the current year, which consist of visiting, the provision of any possible form of help or advice necessary, the giving of extra nourishment where necessary, and the care of pre-tubercular or delicate contact children. The special form of help on which the Committee concentrates are the provision of suitable extra nourishment to patients in need, the provision of clothes for Sanatorium treatment and also warm clothing for poor tubercular families in necessitous circumstances and the sending away at its own expense of delicate children for Convalescent Home treatment for glands, etc.

DISINFECTION.

The disinfection of rooms and bedding continues to be one of the principal duties of the Health Department. The methods employed include fumigation of rooms with Formaldehyde vapour and spraying with a germicide solution. The number of houses disinfected during the year was 106.

Infected bedding is removed to the Council's Disinfecting Station by means of a small motor van and is disinfected by the "Bacterol" process of vaporization. During the year 137 batches of bedding were disinfected, including 55 parcels which were disinfected for the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council; a charge is made for the latter, and also in respect of bedding disinfected at the request of the owners after non-notifiable sickness, and during the year these charges amounted to a total of £74.

In addition 8 batches of infected bedding were destroyed by burning, on application of the owners.

BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S URBAN DISTRICT.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (including inland water)	2,771 acres
Population, 1937 (Registrar-General) ...	13,230
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937)	
according to Rate Books	4,143
Rateable Value (end of 1937)	£179,269
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	£675

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total	M.	F.		Broadstairs & St. Peter's U.D.	England & Wales
Live Births	...	118	62	56	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	8.91	14.9
Legitimate	...	109	57	52			
Illegitimate	...	9	5	4			
Stillbirths	...	6	5	1	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.	48.38	Not avail- able
Deaths	...	158	64	94	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	11.94	12.4
					Adjusted Death Rate	9.91	

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

		Deaths	Rate per		
No. 29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil	1,000 total	Nil 0.94
No. 30.	Other Puerperal causes...	...	Nil	(Live and	Nil 2.17
Total	...	...	Nil	Still) Births	Nil 3.11

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	25	58
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	25	
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	Nil	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	23	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	Nil	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	Nil	

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BROADSTAIRS AND ST. PETER'S
URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1937.

	Males	Females
All Causes	64	94
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
2. Measles	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	1
6. Influenza	2	5
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
8. Cerebrospinal Fever	—	—
9. Respiratory Tuberculosis	5	7
10. Other Tuberculosis	—	—
11. Syphilis	—	1
12. General Paralysis of the Insane	1	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	9	14
14. Diabetes	—	4
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	2	7
16. Heart Disease	20	31
17. Aneurysm	—	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	4	—
19. Bronchitis	1	3
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	1	—
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—
22. Peptic Ulcer	1	—
23. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	—	1
24. Appendicitis	—	1
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	—	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	1	3
28. Nephritis	1	4
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
30. Other Puerperal Causes	—	—
31. Congenital Causes, etc.	2	—
32. Senility	—	1
33. Suicide	2	1
34. Other Violence	3	2
35. Other Defined Causes	8	7
36. Ill-defined Causes	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above):		
Smallpox	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—

**SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA.**

LOCAL ACTS.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Water and Improvement Act, 1901.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Water Act, 1907.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1913.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1923.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE.

- * The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
- * The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, Parts II, III and IV.

The Private Street Works Act, 1892.

- * The Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1907, Parts I, II, III, IV, V, VII and X, with the exceptions of Sections 15, 16, 18, 27, 32, 34, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 52, 78, 80, 82 and 94.
- * The Public Health Act, 1925:

Part II.	Sections	17 to 20 inclusive.
	„	23 to 33 „
	„	35.
Part III.	„	36.
	„	38 to 44.
Part IV.	„	45, 49, and 50.

* (Certain Sections of these Acts were repealed by the Public Health Act, 1936).

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS, 1899-1923.

In addition to the foregoing, in December, 1935, the Council resolved to exercise the powers contained in the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.

ORDERS.

An Order dated 27th October, 1930, extending (permanently) the application of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, to Chickenpox.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS: RELATING TO:

Cleansing of Footways and Pavements and the cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools.

Nuisances.

Slaughterhouses.

Offensive Trades.

Sanitary Conveniences.

Tents, Vans and Sheds and similar Structures.

Houses intended or used for occupation by the working-classes and let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family.

New Streets and Buildings.

Underground Sleeping Rooms.

Nursing Homes.

Prevention of Waste, etc., of Water.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

Action taken during the year under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927, and the Public Health Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of applications for registration	...	...	1
(2)	Number of Homes registered	...	...	1
(3)	Number of orders made refusing or cancelling registration	...	...	—
(4)	Number of appeals against such orders	...	...	—
(5)	Number of cases in which such orders have been:			
	(a) Confirmed on appeal	...	...	—
	(b) Disallowed	...	...	—
(6)	Number of applications for exemption from registration	...	...	—
(7)	Number of Exemption Certificates renewed	...	...	10
(8)	Number of cases in which Exemption has been			
	(a) Granted	...	...	—
	(b) Withdrawn	...	...	—
	(c) Refused	...	...	—

During the year a Nursing Home was removed from the register by the Council at the owner's request, so that at the end of the year there were 12 Nursing Homes on the Register.

Five of the Homes take maternity and other cases (6 beds for maternity and 49 for other cases); six do not take maternity cases (106 beds); and one takes maternity cases only (1 bed).

The Homes have been visited during the year by the Medical Officer of Health. Bye-laws were made by the Council on 3rd December, 1928.

Twelve of the births in the Urban District took place in one Nursing Home.

MORTUARY.

The Public Mortuary, which is situated in the Fire Station Yard, is well lighted and ventilated. The lower portion of the walls is lined with white glazed tiles. It has a cement floor which is efficiently drained. There are two white porcelain tables, one fixed and the other moveable. There is also a slab and a sink, and water laid on with means of providing hot water. The building is sufficient to meet the needs of the District.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS.

The sunshine record for the year was 1,584.3 hours and the rainfall 32.72 inches.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH INQUIRY.

A Public Inquiry was held on the 10th August, at Pierremont Hall, by J. Greaves, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, into the subject matter of two Clearance Orders made by the Council under the Housing Act, 1936, and dated the 3rd May, 1937. The Minister of Health confirmed the Orders, without modification, on the 8th September, 1937.

PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

In the early summer of 1936 Public Sanitary Conveniences were erected at Joss Bay and Botany Bay; these were both for men and women.

In August, 1937, Public Sanitary Conveniences were erected on the Eastern Esplanade for men and women.

New Public Sanitary Conveniences and a Shelter were opened at St. Peter's on the 20th September; the conveniences consist of two W.C.'s for ladies and one W.C. and a three stall urinal for men.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The supply of water is obtained from a well in the chalk 170 feet deep, situated at Rumfields on the western side of the District, and from an adit which stretches in a north-westerly direction for a distance of about a mile. The local supply is supplemented by water obtained from the Works of the Margate Corporation, situated at Wingham, some twelve miles away. In the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District Council Act, 1923, an agreement with the Corporation of the Borough of Margate was incorporated whereby it was agreed that for a period of 50 years, the Urban District Council should be able to obtain a surplus supply of water from the Corporation's Works, and that not less than 7,500,000 gallons of water per quarter should be taken and paid for at a rate which was inserted in the Agreement.

In order to improve their supply, in 1934 the Corporation duplicated their main by laying a 20 inch cast iron pipe from the reservoir at Fleete to Stourmouth; at the former place they have constructed an additional reservoir to hold 5,000,000 gallons of water for the purpose of increasing their storage.

During the year a new 12 inch main to duplicate the existing one was laid from the Council's Works at Rumfields to the Margate Corporation's Reservoir at Fleete.

Storage is provided at Rumfields by an underground concrete tank of 300,000 gallons capacity at the base of a concrete tower; and at a height of 100 feet there is a concrete tank of 250,000 gallons capacity and also the original tank at a lower height with a capacity of 70,000 gallons. There is also another 1,000,000 gallons under ground reservoir.

In 1913 the Council installed a Haines Water Softening Plant, which reduced the hardness of the water from about 22 degrees to about 10 degrees. Owing to the increase of the population in the District, the Council felt that either the softening plant should be enlarged or a different kind installed, and they decided to install a new system called the "Permutit" Base-Exchange process. Sanction to the loan having been obtained, a tender was accepted from the United Water Softeners, Ltd., for the sum of £3,911, and the work was put in hand in 1934 and completed at the beginning of 1935.

The process reduces the degree of hardness from 23 degrees to 9.7 degrees. The water passes through green sand, which robs it of all its hardness and impurities and reduces it to zero. Afterwards it is raised to the required degree of hardness by blending it with unsoftened water.

The old lime treatment plant was dispensed with and certain alterations made to the mains so that the crude water is delivered direct to the "Permutit" Base-Exchange Water Softeners. These comprise

four units each 9 feet in diameter by 7 feet high, constructed to withstand a working pressure of 40 lbs. per square inch, and which are capable of producing 60,000 gallons of blended water per hour.

In the year 1937 the consumption of water was as follows:—

From Broadstairs well and adit	...	...	118,790,000	gallons
From Margate Borough Supply	...	...	93,177,140	gallons
Total	...	...	211,967,140	gallons

and was satisfactory in both quality and quantity.

The water is controlled by bacteriological examination. Frequent samples were taken of the Margate Borough supply by officials of the Corporation, and a chlorinating plant is available for use if required. Seven samples were taken in Broadstairs during the year and sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination and they all showed an absence of bacillus coli in 100 c.c.s and were stated to be "good water." A monthly chemical examination was also carried out at the South Eastern Analytical Laboratory, Canterbury, and the report of the Analyst was as follows:—

"The above results are generally satisfactory and indicate water organically pure and free from sewage percolation. The microscopical examination calls for no adverse remarks."

At the end of the year arrangements were made so that weekly bacteriological examinations might be carried out at the County Laboratory in addition to the monthly chemical examinations.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

A system of main drainage, which is a partially combined one, was provided some 50 years ago for a portion of the present Urban District. The whole of the sewage is discharged untreated by an outfall sewer near the North Foreland. The sewage flows by gravitation except in a small area near the Harbour, where it is raised by an Adams lift worked by compressed air, with a 3 inch Stereophagus Pump to supplement the Adams lift, which works automatically, the power being derived from an electric motor.

In the year 1928 a scheme was commenced for dealing with portions of the District hitherto not sewered and for providing a new outfall sewer, and a screening chamber situated at the North Foreland. The work in connection with the outfall sewer was completed in November, the present outfall sewer being 1,600 feet in length.

The work of sewerage the Kingsgate area was completed in March, 1936; with the completion of this work the Council will have provided main drainage for practically the whole of the District.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are approximately 4,733 separate premises in the District containing the following types of sanitary conveniences:—

W.C.s into drainage system	...	...	...	4,034
W.C.s into cesspools	...	...	...	696
Pail Closets	...	...	...	3

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Dry refuse is collected by horse-drawn vehicles and disposed of by salvage and incineration. From the Nursing Homes and Schools it is collected three times weekly; from the Hotels and Boarding Houses daily during the summer, and twice weekly during the winter. From dwelling-houses it is collected twice weekly throughout the year.

The amount of refuse collected during the year ended 31st March, 1937, was 5,025 tons, at a total cost of £1,957 17s. 3d., or 7s. 10d. per ton. The net cost of disposal amounted to £1,639 17s. 10d., or 6s. 6d. per ton. The amount recovered from salvage was £84 7s. 5d.

There are no ashpits in the Urban District, all premises having portable dustbins. Every effort is made to see that these are kept in order, and 27 have been renewed during the year as a result of notices served upon owners or occupiers by the Sanitary Inspector.

The Urban District Council arranged with Messrs. Heenan and Froude, Engineers, Worcester, to erect a combined salvage and incineration plant for dealing with their house refuse, and the works came into use at the beginning of December, 1930. The incinerator consists of two cells or furnaces with a common combustion chamber. The forced draught system consists of a motor-driven centrifugal fan. The combustion chamber is connected with an all brick chimney 120 feet high above the ground level.

It was found that a certain amount of dust was being emitted from the chimney, and to obviate any nuisance by this the Council installed a Water Dust Trap in 1934, between the combustion chamber and the chimney shaft. This work was also carried out by Messrs. Heenan and Froude.

There are only three houses in the Urban District with pail closets; these are on the outskirts of the District and are cleansed by the occupiers, the contents being disposed of on the land. Where cesspools are in existence the occupiers make their own arrangements for having them emptied, the Council loaning their pumping plant for this purpose; the contents are disposed of on farm lands.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following are the particulars supplied to the Medical Officer of Health by the Sanitary Inspector with regard to the sanitary inspection of the area:—

Summary of Visits, Inspections, etc:—

Inspections under Housing Acts	...	...	10
Re-inspections under Housing Acts	...	...	58
Inspections under Public Health Acts	...	...	216
Re-inspections under Public Health Acts	...	...	127
Visits in relation to Infectious Disease	...	...	105
Visits re sampling	...	...	138
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	452
Inspections of Slaughter-houses	...	...	621
" " Other Food Shops and Premises	...	...	260
" " Bakehouses	...	...	7
" " Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	17
" " Fish and Chip Premises	...	...	4
" " Factories and Workshops	...	...	25
" " Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	85
" " Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	224

Inspections and Visits to Shops	...	...	...	660
Inspection of Shops (General Survey)	...	...	...	9
„ „ Bathing Pools	...	...	...	6
Inspections and re-inspections re verminous premises	...	...	...	28
Inspections re Rat Infestations	...	...	...	113
Visits re “permitted numbers”	...	...	...	240
Total Inspections	...	...	...	3,405

	Total.	Complied with.	Not complied with.
Statutory Notices served	20	20	—
Informal Notices served	181	175	6
Notices re “permitted numbers” ..	178		
Letters written	734		
Interviews with owners, etc.	482		

Summary of Sanitary Improvements effected:—

Drains cleansed	...	...	...	5
Drains re-laid	...	...	...	24
New manholes built	...	...	...	4
New manhole covers and frames provided	...	...	...	5
New gullies fixed or repaired	...	...	...	12
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	...	...	...	6
Ventilating shafts or soilpipes provided	...	...	...	5
Drains water tested or smoke tested	...	...	...	24
Cesspools provided	...	...	...	1
Cesspools defective or overflowing	...	...	...	5
Additional water closets provided	...	...	...	10
New W.C. basins provided	...	...	...	9
Flushing cisterns provided or repaired	...	...	...	5
Water closets repaired	...	...	...	2
Baths and fittings provided	...	...	...	3
New sinks provided	...	...	...	3
Sink wastepipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	4
New roofs provided	...	...	...	4
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	7
Plastering	...	...	...	4
Chimney stacks re-built	...	...	...	2
Gable ends weatherproofed	...	...	...	4
New dustbins provided	...	...	...	42
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	1
Outbuilding demolished	...	...	...	1
New scullery constructed	...	...	...	1
Doors repaired or new provided	...	...	...	8
Floors re-laid	...	...	...	1
Ranges provided	...	...	...	1
Coppers repaired	...	...	...	2
Windows—Additional provided	...	...	...	2
„ —Repaired	...	...	...	4
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	29
Nuisance from keeping of animals	...	...	...	7
„ „ standing water abated	...	...	...	4
„ „ overcrowding abated	...	...	...	1

Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premises cleared of rats	...	...	...	...	...	56
Premises cleared of vermin—bugs	...	...	...	...	...	12
„ „ „ „ —cockroaches	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ „ „ „ —fleas	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ „ „ „ —flies	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ „ —ants	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ „ „ —wasps	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	27

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories: (including Factory Laundries)	13	2	—
Workshops: (including Workshop Laundries)	12	—	—
Workplaces: (Other than Outworkers' Premises)	—	—	—
Total	25	2	—

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	No. of Defects.			Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under Public Health Acts:				
Other Nuisances ..	3	3	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	—	—
Total	5	5	—	—

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Fifteen shops were inspected by the Sanitary Inspector with regard to the provisions of the above Act relating to ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences; the following are the particulars relating thereto:—

7 shops—No action necessary.

7 „ —No means of heating was provided. 6 proprietors have agreed to install the required facilities and one proprietor agreed to give the matter consideration.

1 „ —The basement ventilation is to be improved.

1 „ —An additional water closet is to be provided.

1 „ —Washing facilities are to be provided.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There are very few factories in the District liable to cause smoke nuisances. No such nuisances have been observed and no complaints have been received.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are 7 swimming pools used in connection with Private Schools in the District, and one public swimming pool at the Grand Hotel. The water for these pools is taken by arrangement with the Water Engineer from the town mains.

Arrangements have been made with the owners of the pools for frequent inspection and for taking samples of water during the summer months when the pools are in use. Samples were taken from 6 of the pools during the year,

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Eleven houses were found to be infested with bugs, viz.—one Council House and ten private houses. The rooms affected were thoroughly sprayed with liquid insecticide, with satisfactory results in each case.

Only minor infestations are met with, caused in most cases by the luggage or personal belongings of summer visitors.

Prospective tenants of Council houses are interviewed and their dwellings inspected before houses are allotted to them, in order to prevent undesirable tenants becoming occupants of Council property.

Disinfestation is carried out by the disinfecting staff under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector or his Assistant.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Visits in connection with rat infestations were made to many premises during the year. Poison (Red Squill Rat Biscuits, Zelio Paste, Roxem and/or Phosphorus Paste) was supplied free to all applicants.

It is evident that more attention is being given to rat destruction as the following numbers of applicants for Paste during the past few years show:—

1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
76	82	72	121	141

National Rat Week was held from the 1st to 6th November and much work was done to arouse interest in rat destruction. Posters, newspaper articles, circular letters and printed matter, also window displays, were used in the Urban District for this purpose.

Gassing, trapping and poisoning are carried out periodically on all Council premises where rats are known to exist. In suitable cases gassing apparatus is used by a Council employee, for which service a nominal charge is made.

SCHOOLS.

The Elementary Schools have been visited during the year.

There is a large number of private Boarding Schools in the Urban District, about 19 Boarding Schools with accommodation for some 800 boarders, and a few Day Schools accommodating about 100 pupils. Some of the Boarding Schools also receive day pupils and accommodate approximately 130 of these scholars.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	130
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	411
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	12
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	58
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	11
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	1

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or or their officers	130
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3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 1 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (made in 1936) ... | 3 |

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | --- |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | -- |

4.—HOUSING ACT 1936—PART IV—OVERCROWDING.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | --- |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein | --- |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein | — |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | --- |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | — |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases | -- |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... | -- |
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report:— | |

Under Section 5 of the Act power is given to a Local Authority to authorize the temporary use of a house by persons in excess of the permitted number, and for this purpose may grant a licence to the occupier or intending occupier of a dwelling-house in their District. This licence shall continue in force for a period not exceeding twelve months, or may be revoked by the Local Authority at their discretion. This appears to be an important provision affecting seaside towns where many occupiers take in visitors during the season.

Eleven houses represented in four Clearance Areas in January, 1935, were demolished during the first quarter. These houses were included in the Programme of Housing sent to the Ministry of Health.

In April, 8 caravans were represented as unfit for human habitation and two Clearance Orders were made by the Council. These were shown on the Programme of Housing sent to the Ministry of Health in 1934.

In June a cottage was represented as unfit for human habitation.

Three houses for which a Clearance Order was made in January, 1935, were demolished during the second quarter of the year; these were included in the Programme of Housing sent to the Ministry of Health.

Three houses represented as unfit in September, 1936, for which Demolition Orders were made in November, 1936, were also demolished during the second quarter of the year.

Representations were made in November in respect of a block of three houses with a view to a Clearance Order being made.

The houses entered on the Programme sent to the Ministry of Health have now been dealt with, the 8 Caravans mentioned above being the last.

Number of new Houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	86
(1) By the local authority	...	...	...	...	...	—
(11) By other bodies and persons	...	...	...	...	...	86

TOWN PLANNING.

On the 9th December, 1929, the Council passed a resolution to prepare a Town Planning scheme in respect of an area approximately two-thirds of the area of the Urban District.

Then on the 22nd September, 1930, they passed a resolution to prepare a Town Planning scheme in respect of an area at Kingsgate. The two schemes were combined, the total area dealt with being 2,138 acres.

On the 7th November, 1932, the Council passed a resolution adopting a Preliminary Statement of Proposals for Development.

On the 20th April, 1933, a local inquiry was held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health into the Council's proposals.

The Preliminary Statement was approved, with modifications, by the Minister of Health on the 23rd March, 1934; and the Draft Planning Scheme was adopted by the Council on the 18th March, 1935. The Scheme was made by the Council on the 30th March, 1936, and is at present in the hands of the Ministry.

The greater part of the area of the scheme is zoned so as to permit of the erection of residential buildings and private schools only, except by special consent of the Council. Provision is made for a few shopping areas. The number of dwelling-houses to be allowed per acre varies from four on the coast to twelve in the west of the district, half of the area being zoned at twelve to the acre.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

An encampment situate in Camden Road, consisting of eight caravans and one corrugated iron structure was kept under observation throughout the year. The sanitary accommodation is unsatisfactory; a hand-flushed water closet is used in one case, the remainder having pail closets in wooden and corrugated iron structures. Water is obtained from two standpipes connected to the Council's water main. These caravans are on the site the whole of the year and are used as permanent habitations. During the year these dwellings were represented as two Clearance Areas and the Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister of Health in December.

HOLIDAY CAMPS.

During the summer months a considerable number of people were camping within the Urban District, chiefly in the following areas:— Elmwood Farm and Callis Court Road. Visits were made by the Sanitary Inspector to 84 tents, trailers, etc. occupied by 176 adults and 23 children. Little difficulty was experienced with the organized camps of Boy Scouts and similar bodies, but in several instances where small parties were camping, informal action was necessary with respect to the surroundings of the tents and improper disposal of refuse. Water supplies and sanitary conveniences were found to be fairly satisfactory.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY: MILK AND DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922.

At the end of the year the number of persons registered in connection with the milk supply of the district was as follows:—

Producers (in respect of 7 premises) ...	6	
Retail purveyors of milk in the district ...	6	} 38
Retailers of milk from outside areas ...	9	
Retailers of milk in sealed containers only ...	23	

Graded milk is produced at four of the cowsheds and ungraded milk at the other three cowsheds, the number of cows kept being approximately 100.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

The requirements of the above Order as to care and cleanliness in production, storage and delivery of milk are generally complied with. Eighty-five visits to cowsheds and dairies were made by the Sanitary Inspector during the year and the following alterations and improvements carried out:—

- 2 cowsheds were fitted with electric lighting.
- 1 cowshed floor was re-constructed in concrete.
- 1 dairy had a steam boiler installed.
- 1 dairy had all internal walls cement rendered.
- 1 new sterilizing room was constructed.
- 1 cowshed approach was concreted.

EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES.

The following samples of graded milk were submitted by the Sanitary Inspector for bacteriological examination:—

Grade of Milk.	No of Samples Taken.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Tuberculin tested ..	7	5	2
Accredited	14	12	2
Pasteurized	11	11	—
Ordinary*	17	15	2
Totals	49	43	6

* No standard being fixed for this class of milk, samples with a bacterial count of less than 200,000 are classed as satisfactory. Of these samples two were satisfactory on the Methylene Blue Test, 11 had a bacterial count of less than 100,000 and two had counts between 100,000 and 200,000 per millilitre.

SCHOOL MILK.

Fifteen samples of School Milk were taken and sent to the County Laboratory by the School Inquiry Officer for examination: thirteen were reported to be satisfactory and two were unsatisfactory. Six samples of this milk were also sent for examination for tubercle: five of these proved negative and one positive. The County Veterinary Officer took the necessary steps with regard to the positive supply.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The following licences were issued during the year:—

Bottler's licence to sell milk as "Tuberculin Tested" ...	...	1
Dealer's licence to sell milk as "Tuberculin Tested" ...	...	5
Dealer's licence to sell milk as "Accredited" ...	...	1
Pasteurizer's licence to sell milk as "Pasteurized" ...	...	2
Dealer's licence to sell milk as "Pasteurized" ...	...	1
Supplementary licence to sell milk as "Pasteurized" ...	...	2

Graded milk is being produced in the district as follows:—

"Tuberculin Tested" Producers ...	...	...	...	1
"Accredited" Producers ...	...	...	...	3

One Dairyman has had two pasteurizing plants installed for several years and is licensed by the Local Authority to pasteurize and to sell milk as "Pasteurized." Both plants are of the "holder" type, one being an Aluminium Plant and Vessel Company's "Tarbet Positive Holder," the other being a "Batch Pasteurizer" by Messrs. Snelling, Burnard and Co., Ltd.

Another Dairyman had a 50 gallon pasteurizer installed during the year and a licence to pasteurize was granted by the Local Authority, samples taken proving satisfactory.

ICE CREAM.

Seven samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination by the Sanitary Inspector during the year. Exceptionally low counts were recorded in five cases; one sample was deemed to be unsatisfactory owing to the presence of bacillus coli in 1/100th millilitre, and one sample was unsatisfactory both as to count and bacillus coli. The reports were as follow:—

Sample No.	Bacterial Count per Millilitre.	Bacillus Coli in 1/100th Millilitre.	Remarks.
1	48,000	Present	Unsatisfactory
2	700,000	Present	Unsatisfactory
3	1,400	Absent	Satisfactory
4	6,800	Absent	Satisfactory
5	1,400	Absent	Satisfactory
6	1,300	Absent	Satisfactory
7	2,500	Absent	Satisfactory

The results of all bacteriological examinations are sent to all persons from whom samples are obtained, and also the manufacturers where the ice cream is not produced by the retailer.

No standard of purity or content has been laid down by the Ministry of Health and it does appear necessary that this should be done.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS: PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

There are five registered Slaughter-houses in the Urban District, and 621 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspector to these premises during the year. The premises were generally well kept and maintained in a cleanly condition.

The butchers have given every assistance in the detection of diseased and unsound meat and it has been unnecessary to take any legal proceedings as all diseased and unsound meat has been surrendered voluntarily.

Only good class animals are slaughtered and the meat is consequently of a high class.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	84	—	127	1357	1185
Number inspected ..			Practically 100%		
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	2	—	—	—	8
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	2.38	—	—	—	6.7
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned ..	7	—	—	—	14
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8.3	—	—	—	1.18

DISEASED AND UNSOUND FOOD DESTROYED.

	lbs.	
5 Beast Heads and Tongues ...	178	Tuberculosis.
2 Beast Livers, Skirt, etc. ...	65	"
13 Pig Heads, Tongues and Plucks	198	"
2 Pig Forequarters ...	38	"
2 Beast Livers ...	28	Distomatosis
1 Pig Liver ...	4	Necrosis
5 Pig Livers ...	25	Cirrhosis
* 3 Lambs ...	129	Decomposition
* 1 Beast Hindquarter ...	197	"
* 1 Duck ...	5	"

Total amount destroyed:—7 cwts. 2 qrs. 27 lbs.

* Not included in the foregoing tabular percentage statement, decomposition not strictly being a disease.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Eleven persons are licensed, in accordance with Section 3 of the Act, to slaughter in a slaughter-house or Knacker's yard, all licences being renewable on 31st December, 1939.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 8 bakehouses on the register of the Urban Authority: of these, two are underground bakehouses. Seven visits were made by the Sanitary Inspector to these premises and three nuisances were dealt with informally.

FISHMONGERS.

The collection and destruction of fish offal from these premises by the Council has continued throughout the year and has proved satisfactory. The offal is stored in galvanized iron bins with covers pending removal. These bins are collected three times weekly and a clean bin left at the premises. The full bins are taken to the refuse destructor and emptied into a special chamber, the bins being afterwards washed before being returned. No complaints were received during the year and every effort is made to keep the premises clear of any offensive material.

No complaints have been received during the year against the disposal of offal by fish hawkers coming into the district from outside areas.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are two fish-frying premises in the district which are scheduled as "Offensive Trades." Both premises are fitted with "Acme" frying ranges equipped with "Ozonair" Patent Deodorizing Apparatus. All the fish offal is collected from these premises by the Council and destroyed at the Council's Refuse Destructor.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

Twenty-one samples of food were taken by the Sanitary Inspector under the provisions of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, as follows:—

No. of Samples.	Nature of Samples.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
9	New Milk	9	—
2	Margarine	2	—
3	Empire Butter	3	—
*1	Sausage	—	1
1	Pure Coffee	1	—
1	Cocoa	1	—
1	Tea	1	—
1	Jam	1	—
1	Cheese	1	—
1	Lard	1	—
21		20	1

* This sample contained 326.4 parts per million of Sulphur di-oxide and was not labelled in accordance with the Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations, 1925. The amount of Sulphur di-oxide allowed in sausage is 450 parts per million, but sausage containing any preservative should be labelled to that effect. The vendor was cautioned.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

These examinations are carried out at the County Laboratory, Maidstone.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

SUPPLY OF SERUM.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for the use of the poorer inhabitants of the district in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910." A supply is kept at the Sanitary Inspector's Office and also at the County Police Station.

VERMINOUS PERSONS.

There are facilities at the Disinfecting Station for the cleansing of the belongings of verminous persons.

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year 31 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in the Urban District, 17 occurred in five Convalescent Homes, 12 in twelve private families (three of these being visitors to the District, and in each case it being evident that they had contracted the disease before they arrived in Broadstairs), and 2 cases were notified in a Boarding School. Three of the cases notified were adults. All the cases were removed to the Isle of Thanet Joint Isolation Hospital with the exception of four, two of whom were isolated and treated at home; another, a visitor, was removed to his home in London; and the other, a boy in a Boarding School, was isolated in the Sanatorium attached to the School.

DIPHTHERIA.

Three cases of Diphtheria were notified, 2 in two private families and one in a Children's Home. All the patients were removed to the Isle of Thanet Joint Isolation Hospital for isolation and treatment, together with two "carriers" found by swabbing, one in a Convalescent Home and one in a private family. One of the patients unfortunately died.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Two cases of Puerperal Pyrexia occurred during the year, one case was nursed at home and the other was removed to the Isle of Thanet Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

One case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified in the Urban District during the year.

CHICKENPOX.

There were 255 cases of Chickenpox notified during the year; 173 of these occurred in private families, 44 in seven Convalescent Homes, 20 in one Children's Home, and 18 in three Boarding Schools.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

During the last quarter of the year there was an outbreak of Measles which chiefly affected the Broadstairs Council Girls' School.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	31	27	—
Diphtheria	3	3	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	—
Pneumonia	16	1	5
Erysipelas	3	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Chickenpox	255	—	—
Total	311	32	6

"Return" cases—Nil.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS, 1937.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 Year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	—	1	18	7	1	2	—	1	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	6	6
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chickenpox ...	5	7	10	9	19	145	47	7	4	2	—	—
Total ...	6	8	11	9	20	165	54	9	11	3	7	8

Year.	Private Families.		Boarding Schools, Convalescent Homes, etc.	
	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
1937	12 in 12 Families.	2 in 2 Families.	17 in 5 homes 2 in 1 School	1 in a Children's Home

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 ...	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
15 ...	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	—
25 ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 ...	4	1	1	1	—	1	—	—
45 ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 ...	1	3	—	—	2	2	—	—
65 and upwards	4	1	—	—	2	2	—	—
Total ...	14	7	4	2	5	7	—	—

Included in the foregoing totals are four cases (Pulmonary) which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the Death Returns. The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths of total tuberculosis deaths is 4 to 12.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate for the Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District for the year 1937 was .90 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

BROADSTAIRS AND RAMSGATE TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE.

The report for 1937 of this Committee shows that the work done consisted of giving help and advice; where needed giving extra nourishment, milk, eggs, etc., especially where there are child contacts and patients returned home from Sanatorium; help has been given in the homes for laundry and housework where the mother is the patient; beds, bedding and clothing has been supplied when necessary, also coal; children have been sent to Convalescent Homes for periods; patients at Sanatorium are kept in touch with and supplied with pocket money; and where necessary fares paid for patients to and from Sanatorium and Hospitals, and for relatives to visit patients.

DISINFECTION.

The disinfection of premises is carried out after all cases of notifiable infectious disease, or any other diseases where the Medical practitioner especially desires disinfection; also after deaths from notifiable and non-notifiable diseases, and other causes if deemed necessary.

The two main methods adopted for the disinfection of rooms are by gaseous and liquid disinfectants. As to which is used is a matter of expediency. Formalin gas is used for the former and for liquid disinfection a formalin spray is used.

The number of rooms fumigated and sprayed during the year was as follows:—

Fumigated	...	...	...	...	172
Sprayed	...	...	...	...	75
Verminous rooms sprayed			...	...	63

The disinfection of bedding and clothing is carried out at the Council's Disinfecting Station. Infected clothing is removed in a special van before the disinfection of the premises. A Washington-Lyons disinfecting apparatus is used for this work. Leather goods, etc., which do not stand steam disinfection, are set aside and treated by the gaseous method. Books are either destroyed or treated by the gaseous method.

Three hundred and seventy-four parcels of bedding were disinfected during the year.

BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (including inland water)	...	...	55,868	acres
Population, 1937 (Registrar-General)	...	...	15,560	
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books	...	...	4,993	
Rateable Value (end of 1937)	...	...	£89,768	
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	...	...	£369	

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.		Bridge- Blean R.D.	England & Wales
Live Births—	255	117	138	Birth Rate	16.38	14.9
Legitimate	246	112	134	per 1,000		
Illegitimate	9	5	4	of the		
				estimated		
				resident		
				population		
Stillbirths—	10	5	5	Rate per	42.55	Not
				1,000 total		avail-
				(live and		able
				still) births.		
Deaths—	179	100	79	Death Rate	11.49	12.4
				per 1,000		
				of the		
				estimated		
				resident		
				population		
				Adjusted		
				Death Rate	9.19	

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):

No.		Deaths	Rate per		
No. 29.	Puerperal sepsis	...	1,000 total	Nil	0.94
No. 30.	Other Puerperal causes...	Nil	(live and	Nil	2.17
Total	...	...	still) births	Nil	3.11

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	31	58
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	31	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	Nil	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	16	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	Nil	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	Nil	

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BRIDGE-BLEAN RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1937.

	Males.	Females.
All Causes	100	79
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
2. Measles	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Influenza	4	3
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
8. Cerebrospinal Fever	—	—
9. Respiratory Tuberculosis	4	3
10. Other Tuberculosis	—	—
11. Syphilis	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane	1	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	7	9
14. Diabetes	3	3
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	4	3
16. Heart Disease	24	22
17. Aneurysm	—	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	5	4
19. Bronchitis	1	3
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	8	3
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	—	1
22. Peptic Ulcer	1	—
23. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	—	—
24. Appendicitis	—	—
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	3	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	—	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	2	4
28. Nephritis	3	5
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
30. Other Puerperal Causes	—	—
31. Congenital Causes, etc.	5	2
32. Senility	5	3
33. Suicide	1	—
34. Other Violence	7	4
35. Other Defined Causes	11	6
36. Ill-defined Causes	1	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above):		
Smallpox	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LOCAL ORDERS.

Bridge Rural (Apportionment of Expenses) Order, 1928—
Scavenging.

Bridge Rural (Urban Powers) Order, 1931—Provision of Fire Plug.

Bridge-Blean (Urban Powers) Order, 1935—Provision of Fire Plug.

Bridge-Blean Rural (Urban Powers) Order, 1934—Public Seats,
etc.

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE.

- * Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
- * Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.
- * Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907:—
 - Part 2. Sections 15, 16, 17, 23 and 27.
 - Part 3. Sections 34, 35, 38, 43, 44, 46 and 49.
 - Part 4.

} Sturry
only

- * Public Health Act, 1925.

* (Certain Sections of these Acts were repealed by the Public Health Act, 1936).

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS, 1899-1923.

In addition to the foregoing, the Council exercise the powers contained in the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.

BYE-LAWS, REGULATIONS AND ORDERS, RELATING TO:

Hop-pickers and Fruit Pickers (P.H. Act, 1875, S.314 and P.H. (Fruit Pickers Lodgings) Act, 1882).

Slaughterhouses.

New Streets and Buildings.

Byelaws made under the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890, Section 26, are in force in the parishes of Hackington, Sturry and Westbere.

Byelaws with respect to New Buildings made in June, 1935, came into operation on the 1st October, 1935.

Byelaws for Hop Pickers and Fruit Pickers made in October, 1936, came into operation on the 1st January, 1937.

PARISH COUNCILS.

Adisham	Fordwich	Petham
Barham	Hackington	Sturry
Bekesbourne	Harbledown	Thanington Without
Bishopsbourne	Hardres (Lower)	Waltham
Blean	Hardres (Upper)	Westbere
Bridge	Hoath	Wickhambreux
Chartham	Ickham	Womenswold
Chislet	Littlebourne	

PARISH MEETINGS.

Kingston

Patricxbourne

MINISTRY OF HEALTH INQUIRIES.

A Public Inquiry was held on the 30th April by G. H. Pritchard, Esq., M.Inst.C.E., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, into an application by the Rural District Council for consent to borrow £3,000 for Works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for the Contributory Place of Harbledown.

On the 29th June a Public Inquiry was held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health (W. E. Kelly, Esq., A.R.I.B.A.) in connection with 8 houses in respect of which three Clearance Orders had been made. Notice had been given by the owners that they intended to appeal against the Orders made by the Rural District Council, but at the Inquiry they withdrew their opposition.

HOP-PICKERS' ENCAMPMENTS.

Visits were paid to the Hop-Pickers' Encampments by the Medical Officer of Health and the Senior Sanitary Inspector before occupation, and certain improvements and alterations were carried out. Visits were also paid, during the occupation of the Encampments, by Dr. Conor J. Donelan, a Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health.

There are 11 Encampments with about 576 huts.

CHARTHAM MENTAL HOSPITAL.

This Institution has accommodation for 1,501 patients, 732 males and 769 females. There is a resident staff, Medical, Nursing and Domestic, of 143, and a non-resident staff of 167, making a total of patients and staff, 1,712.

There is no accommodation provided in this Institution for isolating cases of infectious disease occurring among patients or staff. It appears that the Rural District Council are not responsible for providing isolation accommodation for cases of infectious diseases occurring in the Mental Hospital; although, no doubt, cases occurring among the staff might be admitted to the Eastry Isolation Hospital on payment if accommodation were available, the question of isolating mental cases presents serious difficulties. Fortunately, in the history of the Institution very little infectious disease has ever occurred.

SURVEY OF THE RURAL DISTRICT BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

On the 17th February Dr. A. Elliott, Deputy County Medical Officer, commenced making an inspection of the Health Services of the District and completed the survey on the 3rd December.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

A free film display and lecture were given in The Methodist Hall, Hersden, on the 8th March, on "The Tragedy of Ignorance." This was arranged by the Kent County Council in co-operation with the British Social Hygiene Council (Inc.).

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The following table shows the source of water supply in each Parish in the District:—

Name of Parish.	Source of Supply.
Adisham	Margate Corporation.
Barham	Mid-Kent Water Company.
Bekesbourne	Margate Corporation.
Bishopsbourne	" "
Bridge	" "
Chartham	Canterbury Gas and Water Company
Chislet	Local Wells. [And Local Wells.
Fordwich	Roman Well.
Hackington	Canterbury Gas and Water Company.
Harbledown	" " "
Hoath	Herne Bay Water Works Company.
Ickham and Well	Margate Corporation.
Kingston	Mid-Kent Water Company.
Littlebourne	Margate Corporation.
Lower Hardres	Canterbury Gas and Water Company.
Patrixbourne	Margate Corporation.
Petham	Mid-Kent Water Company.
St. Cosmus and St. Damian in the Blean	Canterbury Gas and Water Company.
Sturry	" " "
Thanington Without	Canterbury Gas and Water Company. and Rainwater Tanks.
Upper Hardres	Mid-Kent Water Company.
Waltham	Mid Kent Water Company
Westbere	Canterbury Gas and Water Company.
Wickhambreux	Margate Corporation.
Womenswold	Margate Corporation.

PUBLIC SUPPLIES.

As regards the public supplies, they have been satisfactory in quality and in quantity.

Margate Corporation.—This supply is obtained from Works at Wingham, just outside the Bridge-Blean Rural District, and all necessary precautions to ensure the purity of this water are taken by the responsible officials.

Mid-Kent Water Company.—The Works are situated at Barham, the water being obtained from the chalk. The Managing Director informed the Medical Officer of Health in December that the water is continuously chlorinated; bacteriological examinations are made monthly and chemical examinations quarterly. Reports show that the water is of excellent quality.

Canterbury Gas and Water Company.—In November the Medical Officer of Health was informed that samples of this water were being examined bacteriologically once a week and that a chlorination plant was ready for use if any sign of contamination appeared.

Herne Bay Water Company.—The arrangements for the examination of samples have already been mentioned (see page 24).

Lower Hardres.—The provision of a public supply was carried out in the spring of 1937 by the laying of a main to connect the houses in the Parish with the Canterbury Gas and Water Company's Supply.

Chislet.—The Parish of Chislet, including Highstead and Marshside still obtains its water supply from local wells. A well was sunk in the autumn of 1936 at Highstead by private enterprise, through the chalk to a depth of 130 feet, when it reached 110 feet an abundant supply of water was obtained. The Building Surveyor has prepared a report on the carrying of the water main of the Canterbury Gas and Water Company from Upstreet to Chislet.

Stodmarsh.—The village of Stodmarsh, which is included in the Parish of Wickhambreux, obtains its water supply from a public well, which was found in 1935 to be seriously polluted, and a notice was accordingly posted to the effect that the water should not be used for drinking unless previously boiled. Since then the Council, as mentioned in last year's report, has had the matter under consideration and various steps have been taken to arrange to provide the Parish with a supply of wholesome water, without success. During 1937 a discussion took place with Margate Borough Council as to the possibility of laying a main to the boundary of the Parish from the Margate supply, but it was found that this would mean the levying of a heavy rate on the Parish. The question of the provision of rainwater tanks was also considered. At the end of the year negotiations were re-opened with the owner of a private well in the Parish to provide a supply.

Steps should be taken to connect houses supplied from shallow wells with the public main when they are within a reasonable distance.

I think, in conclusion, it will be seen that the Rural District is, in general, provided with a fairly adequate supply of wholesome water.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are two sewage schemes in operation, one for the Parish of Harbledown and one for the village of Hersden situated in the Parish of Westbere. The rest of the sewage disposal of the district is by means of privies, pail closets or W.C.'s and drainage to cesspools.

HARBLEDOWN SEWERAGE SCHEME.

The Sewage Works which deal with the sewage of a portion of this Parish are situated on low lying ground at the south of the Parish, not far from the boundary of the City of Canterbury. They were constructed in the year 1902 at a cost of £5,380. Originally the Works consisted of upper and lower contact beds with an area of three-eighths of an acre of land for intermittent downward filtration, the effluent entering a stream at the lowest part of the area, which finds its way into the river Great Stour, about half a mile distant.

The sewage from the Summer Hill portion of the Parish was taken to a Pumping Station, from which it was pumped by means of gas engines to high ground on the London Road and from there it, together with the sewage from the other drained portion of the Parish, passed by gravitation to the Works.

The number of houses connected at first was 85; 40 more, together with the Kent College were, according to the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1910, connected with the sewerage scheme at that time at a further outlay of £2,551.

Then in the year 1930 further alterations were made in the Works and the upper contact beds were converted into septic tanks and the lower beds into percolation filters at a cost of £56 15s. 0d., this being paid for out of revenue. This was done, as it was thought that an improvement in the treatment of the sewage would be brought about in this way, as complaints had been made on account of an offensive smell.

In 1932 the Rough Common area was connected with the main water supply, and this increased the amount of sewage.

The previous Medical Officer of Health and the present Medical Officer of Health having both reported adversely on the Works, the Council decided to engage the services of a Consulting Engineer, Mr. F. W. S. Stanton, M.Inst.C.E., to advise them. He recommended that the existing sewage disposal works should be remodelled to deal with a dry weather flow of at least 17,000 gallons per day, and included six primary and six secondary beds, all with rotary sprinklers. Its capacity could be increased to deal with 20,000 gallons daily without extra cost. He thought that the remodelled works would last ten years without further extension. A dry weather flow of approximately 5,400 gallons per day to be delivered by gravitation to the Canterbury sewer from the pumped area of the Parish in which there are about 35 houses. The advantage of this scheme is the abolition of the present Pumping Station and avoiding the possibility of costly repair to the pumping plant and eventually replacing the plant.

Negotiations having taken place with the Corporation of the City of Canterbury and in view of the fact that the City Council were prepared to grant the application of the Rural District Council upon payment of an annual sum equal to 1s. 6d. in the £ on the rateable value of the premises affected, the area being converted into one of gravitation to the main drainage of the City, the Council resolved in 1936, to accept the offer of the City Council to take the sewage from premises situated in the area of Summer Hill and Mill Lane, Harbledown; and that the existing Disposal Works be remodelled at an approximate cost of £2,780, to deal with a dry weather flow of at least 20,000 gallons per day; that in addition the present sewer be extended from Manhole No. 19 to the Canterbury sewer at an approximate cost of £220.

In connection with the scheme a Public Inquiry was held at Harbledown on the 30th April by G. H. Pritchard, Esq., M.Inst.C.E., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, into an application made by the Rural District Council to borrow a sum of £3,000 for Works of Sewage, and this later received the approval of the Ministry.

The work of connecting the Summer Hill sewer with the Canterbury City sewer was commenced on the 28th December, 1937, and completed on the 1st February, 1938.

STURRY AND DISTRICT.

The Council arranged for Mr. F. W. S. Stanton to prepare a scheme to deal with the drainage of Sturry and District west of, and including, Hersden. He attended a meeting of the Public Health Committee on the 11th September, 1935, and discussed the scheme. He presented his report on the 14th January, 1936, when it was considered by the Public Health Committee.

A special meeting of the Public Health Committee was held at Sturry on the 21st May, 1936, to inspect the area affected by the proposed drainage scheme; and at a meeting of that Committee held on 10th June, a report was received from Mr. Stanton, and the Committee recommended that the scheme, as prepared, be approved, and this was agreed to by the Council.

This scheme deals with the sewage disposal of the Parishes of Fordwich, Sturry and Westbere, and includes the village of Hersden; the Disposal Works will be at Hersden, where the maximum subsidence may be expected to take place; the Pumping Station will be in the village of Sturry.

At a meeting of the Rural District Council in July, 1937, the proposed scheme was discussed and the Council was given authority to apply to the Public Works Loan Board for a loan of £41,800. On the supposition that the Kent County Council would contribute $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ on loan charges and the Rural District Council the product of 1d. rate, the special rate increase was estimated as Sturry—1s. 3d., Westbere—1s. 0d., and Fordwich—1s. 7d. It was agreed that the figure should be reviewed three years after the completion of the scheme.

HERSDEN SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Sewage Disposal Works at Hersden, which are situated in the Colliery on the south side of the main Canterbury-Margate Road, were installed some eight years ago as a temporary expedient for dealing with the sewage of the Colliery village. The effluent from these Works discharges into the River Stour. In March, 1936, the disposal beds were re-constructed under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector. Complaints having been received of the nature of the effluent, the Senior Sanitary Inspector reported on the matter to the Public Health Committee, at their meeting in October, and advised that an additional tank be provided below the outfall of the existing tanks, and that the ditch, about 50 yards, be piped. He estimated the cost would be approximately £30. He also recommended that at least two or three days per week should be spent by a man in keeping the tanks, ditch and culverts cleaned out; these proposals were agreed to and the work carried out.

Had it not been for the need of economy in 1931, a scheme for the sewerage of the Parishes of Sturry, Westbere and Chislet, which would have included the village of Hersden and the village of Upstreet, by means of a main sewer laid along the Canterbury-Margate road, and discharging to disposal works on the marshes, would by this time have been in operation and the Hersden Works would have ceased to exist. A large Government grant would have been obtained.

UPSTREET SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

For years complaints have been received with regard to the disposal of sewage in the village of Upstreet. The Medical Officer of Health reported to the Blean Rural District Council on the 8th March, 1928, on the condition of this area. He reported on the 9th August, 1934, to the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council with regard to the sanitary condition of this village, which at that time consisted of about 100 houses, including shops and St. Mary's College, in which about 60 persons lived. On the 17th June, 1935, he made a general survey of the village with the Sanitary Inspector, and as a result the Sanitary Inspector prepared a report, in which he made the suggestion that the ditch on the north side of the village should be piped in with a 9in. pipe, and that this be carried to some distance below the village to low lying land where a small septic tank system could be constructed. He estimated the approximate cost to be £1,500. The Public Health Committee, in February, 1936, favoured this scheme. In May, 1936, Mr. H. Anderson, Chartered Architect, was invited by the Rural District Council to prepare a scheme for the drainage of Upstreet. In August a report was received from him and on the 17th September the Committee met him on the spot and discussed the details, and recommended that his scheme be adopted, and that an application be made to the Kent County Council for a grant towards the cost. In December Mr. H. Anderson was appointed as Engineer to carry out the proposed scheme.

Mr. Anderson attended before the Public Health Committee on the 23rd July, 1937, when the plans showing the route of the sewer and the position of the Disposal Works were considered, and it was resolved to recommend to the Council that the plans be approved and that the Clerk negotiate with the owner for the purchase of the site suggested for the Sewage Disposal Works.

STURRY CENTRAL SCHOOL.

Difficulties have arisen in connection with the disposal of sewage from the new Central School built at Sturry. This School is situated on the north side of the main Canterbury-Margate road, and the land on which it is built is liable to become water-logged; it was opened on the 1st July, 1935, with an attendance of 180 children, but it will accommodate 350 children. When the School was officially opened on the 14th December, 1935, there were 206 children attending, but this number was increased by children being sent from Littlebourne in September, so that at the end of 1936 the number in attendance was 218.

Two cesspools holding 11,000 gallons were constructed when the school was built, and owing to the amount of sewage to be dealt with from the automatic flushing of the sanitary conveniences and the fact that the School is open in the evening for Evening Classes, and that a canteen is in use, it was found that the cesspools required frequent emptying. As it was not possible for the Rural District Council to undertake this work, the Medical Officer of Health agreed that as a temporary measure the contents of the cesspools might be pumped on to an area of arable land on the School premises, but that this should be discontinued before the winter of 1935; and on the 1st January, 1936, he wrote to the Clerk of the Rural District Council to say that the land adjoining the buildings, on to which the sewage had been pumped since the summer of 1935, was not, in his opinion, in a condition to deal with it. Various methods were considered for disposing of the sewage, and correspondence

took place between the Rural District Council and the Kent Education Committee. Finally, the latter body decided to construct a soakaway to deal with the overflow from one cesspool at this School. The work was commenced in February, 1937, and in April the excavation had been completed, 38 feet clay, below that 17½ feet sand, below that 6 inches pebbles and gravel. The construction was completed in May.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No reports of river pollution were received during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The approximate numbers of each type of sanitary convenience in the Rural District are:—

W.C.'s into drainage system	...	...	644
W.C.'s into cesspools	...	...	1566
Pail Closets	...	...	1898
Privies	...	...	100

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The following is an extract from a report by the Senior Sanitary Inspector:—

" The first scheme for the mechanical removal of household refuse and cesspool contents was brought into operation by the Bridge Rural District Council and commenced on 23rd March, 1929, with one ash lorry and one cesspool lorry. Previous to this eight Parishes had schemes in which local contractors were employed to do this work.

This system was entirely unsatisfactory as it was practically an impossibility to empty cesspools properly, as tumbril carts only were provided, which held, when full, 250 gallons, and the cesspools were emptied either with juts or a bucket on a rope. Even when the cart left with a full load, it was half empty on arriving at the dump, owing to the contents being shaken out.

In 1933 the Blean Rural District Council purchased a " Fordson " 400 gallon cesspool emptier for use in the Parishes of Sturry and Westbrook. This was also used to empty pail closets. The household refuse was still collected by a private contractor.

On the formation of the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council, owing to complaints of overflowing cesspools, which were quite justified, the new Council decided to form one scheme and include Thanington Parish; also give an improved service. The scheme was approved by the Ministry of Health, commenced in July, 1936, and included the purchase of two 750 gallon cesspool emptiers, and two 10 cubic yard refuse collecting vehicles.

This full scheme has also proved entirely satisfactory and since its formation has included the Parish of Wickhambreux for all services, household refuse at Lower Hardres, Upper Hardres and Kingston, but is now working to full capacity.

The Council agreed to empty cesspools in unscavenged Parishes at a cost of 10s. 0d. per hour, when the plant was not required for work on the actual Parishes to which the lorries belong. It is, however, getting increasingly difficult to find time to do private work of this nature.

The personnel of the scheme is as follows:—

Chief Sanitary Inspector
Foreman
6 Drivers
7 Mates
1 Tip Labourer.
2 Part time Tip Labourers;

and the vehicles are:—

3—750 Gallon "Dennis" Cesspool Emptiers.
2— 10 Cubic Yard "Dennis" Household Refuse Collecting Vehicles.
1—400 Gallon "Fordson" Pail Collecting Lorry.
1— 7 Cubic Yard "Dennis" Lorry used for Tips.

It can be said, I think, without fear of contradiction that the Council's scheme is the largest of its kind in the country.

The services at present are as follows:—

Cesspools — Emptied when necessary, but not more often than 6 times a year.
Pails — Twice per week collection in every Parish.
Ashbins — Once weekly everywhere where full services are given, apart from Sturry and Island Road, Westbere, which has two collections per week.
Lower Hardres—Once monthly.
Kingston.—Once weekly.

When the present scheme was commenced it was anticipated that the lorries would have a certain amount of spare time, in which case any Parishes could come in as required. At the moment the lorries are working at full capacity, owing to extra Parishes, as stated, coming into the scheme, but principally to the extra amount of work through the number of new houses being built, and that more ashes, etc., are produced.

OUTLYING HOUSES—PAILS.

Previous to the Council carrying out the work of scavenging by mechanical means, the local contractors had a definite area in each Village to scavenge. This was defined on a map with the contract, and in the interests of economy, usually only included the Village Street. This meant that isolated houses, owing to the cost of service, did not receive attention. There was much to be said for this method from all points of view.

The present scheme loses both valuable time and money in attending to these isolated houses. There is one example in Sturry Parish where two men and a lorry have to travel two miles out and two miles back to collect one pail. This means eight miles per week at an estimated cost of 1s. 4d., which works out at 10s. 8d. for one house. There are numerous similar cases in every Parish.

SEWAGE DUMPS.

The question of finding adequate and isolated disposal grounds for the cesspool contents has taken a great amount of time and is getting a very difficult matter. Objection has been made to most of the positions by somebody or other.

NEW HOUSES ERECTED AND ESTIMATED.

Since the scheme commenced there have been 308 houses erected in the Scavenged Area, less 45 connected to Harbledown Drainage, leaving 263 extra cesspools.

Thirty-six new cesspools have been provided in respect of old houses, making total number of new cesspools to empty since the beginning of the scheme 299. When it is considered that these cesspools are emptied six times per year, the result is 1,794 emptyings, no inconsiderate number.

The following is the work carried out during the year:—

Ashbins emptied	...	...	...	240,551
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	4,410
Pails emptied	...	...	...	154,906."

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following are the particulars supplied to the Medical Officer of Health by the Senior Sanitary Inspector with regard to the sanitary inspection of the area:—

	No. in District.	No. of Visits. in 1937.	No. of faults and defects found.	No. of faults and defects remedied.
Bakehouses	20	10	2	2
Dairies	128	256	72	70
Slaughterhouses—				
Registered	8	279	15	15
Licensed	5			
Other Food Preparing				
Places	2	5	2	2
Factories	12	10	—	—
Workshops	22	15	—	—
Workplaces (other than out-workers' Homes)	16	—	—	—

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR.

Hop-Pickers' Camps	...	...	...	24
Defective Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	...	37
Drainage.—Reconstructed	...	...	...	95
Repaired	...	...	...	19
Cleansed	...	...	...	5
Cesspools Repaired	...	...	...	10
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	4
Refuse Receptacles	...	...	...	12
Yard Paving	...	...	...	24
Dampness	...	...	...	64
Roofs and rain water pipes	...	...	...	78
Floors	...	...	...	124
Walls and Ceilings	...	...	...	271
Windows and Ventilation	...	...	...	104
Baths, Lavatory basins and sinks	...	...	...	54
Water Supplies	...	...	...	60

Total number of visits of all kinds paid by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year ... 4,130

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories: (including Factory Laundries) ..	10	—	—
Workshops: (including Workshop Laundries) ..	15	—	—
Workplaces: (Other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	25	—	—

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

No action was taken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector during the year under the Shops Act, 1934.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are two swimming pools in connection with private schools in the district. No action has been taken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector in regard to these during the year.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector writes as follows with regard to this subject:—

“No action has been taken with regard to the eradication of bed bugs, one complaint only having been received and that being in a house scheduled for demolition.”

SCHOOLS.

As far as is known, there are in the Rural District four Boarding Schools, with accommodation for some 250 pupils; three of the schools also have accommodation for about 200 day scholars.

There are 21 Elementary Schools (11 Church of England and 10 Council), and a Central School at Sturry.

Bekesbourne C/E School.—The sanitary conveniences are not very satisfactory.

Chislet Elementary School.—The water supply is insufficient; probably the School will be connected with main of the Canterbury Gas and Water Company before long.

Petham C/E School.—Arrangements are being made to provide a new School to replace this one.

Wickhambreux C/E School.—The condition of the school building is generally unsatisfactory.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	257
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1566
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	—
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose ...	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	52
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	205

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	85
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3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	25
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	24
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	13
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	12
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—

- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

4. --HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING.

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	30
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	30
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	132
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	1
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	14
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	68
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	—
(e)		Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	...	...	—

Representations were made in January in respect of three dwellings which were considered unfit for human habitation; two of these appeared on the Programme of Housing sent to the Minister of Health. In March the Council accepted undertakings in connection with the two, that they would not be let again for human habitation on the expiration of the present tenancies. With regard to the other dwelling a Demolition Order was made in February.

A Demolition Order was recommended on the 13th January by the Public Health Committee in connection with a Bungalow which was represented as unfit for human habitation in March, 1935. This was demolished in September.

The Council made a Demolition Order in January with regard to a Cottage represented as unfit in September, 1934. This house was included on the Programme sent to the Minister of Health.

Demolition Orders were made by the Council in February in respect of four houses represented as unfit in December, 1936. Two of these dwellings were included on the Programme of Housing sent to the Minister of Health.

In March two Clearance Orders were made by the Council in respect of two areas comprising 8 houses and 10 houses respectively.

Five houses were represented as unfit for human habitation in April; in connection with one of these an undertaking to repair was accepted by the Public Health Committee in May, and a Demolition Order was recommended with regard to another of the houses.

In April also six houses were represented as unfit in two Clearance Areas, and in May three houses in one Clearance Area. In June, at a meeting of the Public Health Committee, it was decided to deal with one house in one of the Clearance Areas covering three houses, as an

individual unfit house, and to interview the owner of the other two houses with a view to these being reconditioned; a Clearance Order was not made in respect of these.

In May four houses were represented as unfit for human habitation, and at the request of the Public Health Committee two of the representations were withdrawn.

Representations were made in July in respect of two houses forming a Clearance Area; and in respect of four houses forming another Clearance Area; and also in respect of one cottage as an individual unfit house.

In July an undertaking was accepted to repair a cottage within six months, which was represented as unfit in April. An undertaking was also accepted in July with regard to another cottage represented in April, to repair within three months; and undertakings were accepted with regard to two cottages represented in May.

In August a caravan was removed, which was represented as unfit for human habitation in May, 1936; also in August a house which was represented as unfit in September, 1936, was demolished.

A house which was represented previous to the 1st April, 1934, was demolished in August, 1937.

Four houses represented as unfit for human habitation in July, 1936, and for which Demolition Orders were made in September, 1936, were demolished in September, 1937. Another house which was represented as unfit in January, 1937, was demolished in September; and a house which was represented in April for which a Demolition Order was made in May, was also demolished in September, and another house which was represented as unfit in March, 1935, was demolished.

Two houses which were represented in December, 1936, were demolished in October, 1937, and two new houses have been built. These houses were shown on the Programme of Housing sent to the Minister of Health.

Demolition Orders were made in October in respect of two houses represented as unfit in July.

In November Demolition Orders were made in respect of three houses represented in April.

With regard to four houses represented as unfit in July and to be dealt with as a Clearance Area, the owner's agent was interviewed in October with a view to the houses being re-constructed, but they have since changed hands and are now going to be demolished.

A bungalow represented in September, 1936, was demolished in December, 1937.

Confirmation of the Clearance Orders was received from the Minister of Health in November with regard to Clearance Areas Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, and Nos. 1 and 2 were demolished in December; both these Areas appeared on the Programme of Housing sent to the Minister of Health.

At the end of the year the position as regards the houses entered on the Programme was as follows:—

No. of houses involved.	Date of Demolition Order.	Remarks.
10	March, 1937	Demolished December, 1937.
8	March, 1937	Demolished December, 1937.
1	September, 1934 ..	Not yet dealt with.
1	—	Demolished August, 1937.
1	September, 1934 ..	Demolished.
1	January, 1937	Demolished.
2	—	Converted into one house.
2	—	Withdrawn from the Clearance Order by Minister of Health
3	—	Clearance Order confirmed; not yet demolished.
3	—	Clearance Order confirmed; not yet demolished.
3	—	Reconditioned.
2	—	Dealt with under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1930.
2	April, 1936	Not yet demolished.
1	—	Repaired.
1	January, 1937	Demolished September, 1937.
1	—	Repaired.
1	—	Still remains.
1	May, 1937	Demolished December, 1937.
2	May, 1937	Demolished December, 1937.
2	February, 1937	Demolished October, 1937.
2	—	One closed by owner and the other repaired.
1	—	Reconditioned.

The following houses have been represented as unfit for human habitation since the 1st April, 1934:—

1934	...	...	...	...	4 houses
1935	...	...	...	...	18 ..
1936	...	...	...	...	17 ..
1937	...	...	...	...	45 ..

Number of New Houses erected during 1937:—

Total	...	...	...	...	196
(i)	By the Local Authority	...	...	...	40
(ii)	By other bodies and persons	...	...	...	156

TOWN PLANNING.

The Rural District Council is represented on the East Kent Town Planning Committee; other Councils represented being those of the Rural Districts of Dover and Easry, and the Councils of the Boroughs of Sandwich and Deal. The position at the end of the year with regard to the actual Bridge-Blean Scheme is that the Draft Scheme is nearing completion.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

The Medical Officer of Health reported on the Tents, Vans and Sheds in the District and the Council proposed to take action either under the Public Health Act, 1936, Sections 268 and 269, or the Housing

Act, 1936, Sections 9 to 17, which are applied by Section 23 to include a hut, tent, caravan or other temporary or moveable form of shelter which is used for human habitation and has been in the same enclosure for a period of two years next before action is taken under those Sections.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY: MILK AND DAIRIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922.

The number of persons and premises registered by the Rural District Council at the close of the year was as follows:—

Producers of milk	...	...	...	89
Producer-Retailers	...	...	...	40
Dairymen	...	...	...	13

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Five hundred and five inspections of cowsheds and dairies were made during the year by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and his Assistant, and one Formal Notice was served in connection with general construction and drainage. At the close of the year the following improvements had been made good:—

- (i) One new cowshed built.
- (ii) Eleven structural improvements were made.
- (iii) Fifty-nine minor defects were made good.

The inspection of cowsheds and milk production generally was held up for some five weeks owing to the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease towards the end of the year.

EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES.

Accredited Milk.—During the year 44 samples of Accredited Milk were taken, at the request of the County Medical Officer, and sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination; of these 28 were found to satisfy the prescribed tests and 16 gave unsatisfactory results.

Tuberculin Tested Milk.—Two samples of this milk were sent to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination; one was satisfactory and the other unsatisfactory.

Ordinary Milk.—One sample of Ordinary Milk was sent to the County Laboratory for examination and found to be satisfactory.

Tubercle.—Four samples were taken by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and 22 by the County Veterinary Officer from six farms in the Rural District, and these were sent to the County Laboratory for examination for tubercle; three of the samples gave positive results and 23 negative.

School Milk.—Fifty-one samples of School Milk were taken by the School Inquiry Officer for bacteriological examination; with the exception of one sample they all proved to be satisfactory.

Thirty-one samples of School Milk were also examined for tubercle, and with the exception of one all gave negative results.

In the case of the unsatisfactory samples steps were taken to improve the supplies.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The licences issued in the Rural District during 1937 under this Order were as follows:—

Licences to produce "Accredited" Milk	30
Licences to produce "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	4
Licence to retail "Accredited" Milk	1
Licence to retail "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	1
Supplementary Licence to retail "Tuberculin Tested"	1
Supplementary Licence to retail "Pasteurized" Milk	2

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

At the end of the year 25 men were licensed to slaughter animals in slaughter-houses in the district, the licences to be in force for a period of three years.

There are 13 slaughter-houses in the Rural District, of which five of the occupiers are licensed annually. The premises are inspected regularly and conditions found quite satisfactory.

The weight of meat condemned for various reasons during the year was 3cwts. 3qrs. 11lbs.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	410	—	16	2,129	3,600
Number inspected ..	261	—	11	1,750	2,710
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	1	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	2	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	.8%	—	—	.06%	.1%
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. ..	.4%	—	—	—	—

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 20 bakehouses in the Rural District. These are visited from time to time, and in two instances improvements were suggested and carried out.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

The Adulteration of Food Regulations are administered by the County Council in the Rural District.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

These examinations are carried out at the County Laboratory, Maidstone.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

SUPPLY OF SERUM.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of charge and supplied to medical practitioners for the use of the poorer inhabitants of the district in accordance with the "Diphtheria Anti-toxin (Outside London) Order, 1910." A supply is kept by the Senior Sanitary Inspector at his Office.

VERMINOUS PERSONS.

There are no facilities in this district for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings.

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year 69 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in the Rural District in 44 families. Sixty-five patients were removed to the Eastry Isolation Hospital and one to the Dover Borough Isolation Hospital for treatment; three were isolated and treated at home.

The distribution of the cases over the Rural District and the Schools affected was as follows:—

Parish.	No. of cases notified.	No. of Families affected.	Name of Schools affected.
Bridge	1	1	—
Chartham ..	1	1	—
Fordwich ..	9	2	Sturry Central .. 3 cases Sturry C/E. 1 „
Harbledown ..	1	1	Blean Council 1 „
Hoath	6	2	Hoath Council .. 2 „ Sturry Central .. 1 „
Littlebourne	7	4	Littlebourne 3 „ Sturry Central 2 „
Lower Hardres	5	3	Lower Hardres .. 2 „
Petham	1	1	—
St. Cosmus & St. Damian in the Blean ..	3	3	Blean Council 1 „
Sturry	15	11	Sturry Central .. 4 „ Sturry C/E. 4 „ Convent School .. 1 „
Sturry Hersden	13	10	Sturry Central .. 2 „ Hersden Temporary .. 8 „
Waltham ..	4	3	Waltham Council .. 4 „
Wickhambreux	2	1	Wickhambreux C/E. .. 1 „
Womenswold ..	1	1	Womenswold C/E. .. 1 „

There were 10 "return" cases, six in one family, three in another and one in another. The Medical Officer of Health was of the opinion, after careful investigation, that no less than 11 patients were in an infectious condition when they returned to their homes from the Isolation Hospital; and that 17 cases resulted from these. Of these unfortunately three were adults. The cases that resulted occurred in eight families.

The condition found in the children discharged from the Isolation Hospital, who were presumably the cause of further cases, was chiefly nasal discharge or excoriation of the nostrils. It was found that many weeks elapsed during which the patients were under treatment before the conditions of the nostrils became normal, and the children were fit to return to school.

All possible steps were taken to deal with the outbreak which caused a considerable amount of extra work for the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspectors. All the cases were investigated, bedding and other articles were removed to the disinfectory, houses were disinfected, schools were visited frequently and children inspected. A School Nurse employed by the Kent Education Committee was specially detailed during the month of July to work with the Medical Officer of Health in "following up" the cases.

The Medical Officer of Health kept the County Medical Officer informed with regard to the outbreak, and also communicated with the Medical Officer of the Isolation Hospital on several occasions.

On the 21st September he was directed by the Public Health Committee of the Rural District Council to write to the latter on the subject. This letter the Medical Officer handed to the Clerk of the Eastry Rural District Council. On the 13th October the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council directed the Medical Officer of Health to write to the County Medical Officer and ask him to investigate the administration of the Eastry Rural District Council's Isolation Hospital. The Eastry Rural District Council asked their Medical Officer of Health to investigate and report. This he did and the result was communicated to the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council and the County Council in a letter dated the 17th November, 1937. The main points mentioned in this letter were:

- 1 That treatment in the Hospital is not sufficiently up-to-date and is in some respects unsatisfactory.
- 2 That the accommodation is badly overcrowded according to present day standards, and it is essential to provide accommodation as soon as possible for convalescent cases separate from acute cases in order to prevent any suspicion of reinfection by new admissions.

The arrangements for providing isolation hospital accommodation in East Kent were first brought forward for the consideration of the County Council in the reports of the County Medical Officer made in conformity with Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1929, dated the 1st January, 1932, and 12th January, 1933; it was then proposed in these reports that the Eastry Isolation Hospital should be enlarged so as to serve neighbouring Districts, but this has never been done; this Hospital has accommodation for about 16 patients suffering from Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

On the 21st February, 1936, the Medical Officer of Health attended a conference called by the Eastry Rural District Council at the Guildhall, Sandwich, and representatives from the Borough of Sandwich, the

Borough of Deal, the Rural Districts of Eastry and Bridge-Blean, and of the County Council, when the position was discussed.

Anticipating the enlargement of the Eastry Isolation Hospital, in accordance with the County Council's scheme, the Bridge-Blean Rural District Council closed their Isolation Hospital at Bekesbourne in the autumn of 1935, and made an arrangement with the Eastry Rural District Council so that all the cases which occurred in their District and which required isolation, should be dealt with by the Eastry Rural District Council on a payment of 10s. 6d. per patient per day.

DIPHTHERIA.

Only one case of Diphtheria was notified in the Rural District during the year: the patient was a visitor to the District and was removed to the Eastry Isolation Hospital for treatment.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Three cases of Puerperal Fever were notified: all the patients were removed to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital for treatment.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.

One case of this disease was notified, a boy of 10 years of age, who was removed to the Dover Isolation Hospital.

TYPHOID FEVER.

One notification of a case of Typhoid Fever was received, a boy of 6 years of age: he was removed to the Dover Isolation Hospital.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

In the second quarter of the year outbreaks of Whooping Cough occurred at Chislet Hersden Temporary Council School, Bridge and Patrixbourne C/E School and Hoath Council School; and cases of Chickenpox occurred at Adisham and Womenswold Schools.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	69	66	—
Diphtheria	1	1	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	—
Puerperal Fever	3	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	26	14	8
Erysipelas	2	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Malaria	1	1	—
Chickenpox	—	—	—
Total	104	87	8

" Return Cases " 10 Scarlet Fever.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES UNDER AGE GROUP.

	Number of Cases Notified.											
	Under 1 year.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever	1	4	5	4	25	20	2	7	1	...	...
Diphtheria	1	...	...	...
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia
Pneumonia ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	1	8	7
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Encephalitis Lethargica
Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-Encephalitis
Cerebrospinal Meningitis
Typhus Fever
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Malaria	1	...
Chickenpox
Total ...	2	1	4	5	4	26	21	3	19	2	10	7

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ...	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
5 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 ...	1	4	—	1	—	3	—	—
35 ...	5	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
45 ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	9	8	1	2	4	3	—	—

Included in the foregoing total is one case (Pulmonary) which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health through the Death Returns. The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is 1 to 7.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate for the Bridge-Blean Rural District for the year 1937 was .44 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

DISINFECTION.

Arrangements were made in 1936 with the Herne Bay Urban District Council in order that articles of bedding, etc., may be disinfected in their disinfector at a cost of 15s. per batch, in view of the fact that the Rural District Council does not possess a steam disinfector.

No. of batches of clothing disinfected during the year ...	55
No. of houses, etc., disinfected ...	78

GENERAL.

The Report for the year 1937 is one which is described by the Minister of Health as an " Ordinary Report." It will be noted as regards the vital statistics of the United District that the birth rate was 11.75 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, as compared with 14.9 for England and Wales; and that the death rate, 13.00 per 1,000, was higher than the birth rate. The infant mortality rate was 34 per 1,000 registered live births, as compared with 58 for England and Wales.

With regard to the statistics for the three districts: in Herne Bay the birth rate was lower than the death rate, being 9.60, as compared with 15.34; and this was also the case in Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District, where the birth rate was 8.91 as compared with a death rate of 11.94. In the Bridge-Blean Rural District the birth rate was 16.38 and the death rate 11.49.

The infant mortality rates for the three Districts were satisfactory.

ADJUSTED DEATH RATE.

As is well known, the proportion of persons of advanced age is higher in seaside residential towns than in working-class districts, which tends to make the death rate higher in those districts.

It will be noted that the death rate for the year 1937 has been adjusted in order that the death rate of each of the three Districts may be compared with a standard. An adjusting factor is supplied by the Registrar-General which represents the ratio of the resulting death rate for the National 1931 Census population to the similarly obtained hypothetical death rate for the said area. The adjusted death rates for the three Districts are:

Herne Bay Urban District	11.35
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District	11.94
Bridge-Blean Rural District	9.19

The Birth Rates and the Adjusted Death Rates for the past three years were as follows:

Year.	District.	Adjusted Death Rate.	Birth Rate.
1935	Herne Bay U.D.	10.78	10.8
	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	10.48	6.68
	Bridge-Blean R.D.	8.78	17.85
1936	Herne Bay U.D.	11.18	9.17
	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	10.87	9.21
	Bridge-Blean R.D.	10.70	16.12
1937	Herne Bay U.D.	11.35	9.60
	Broadstairs and St. Peter's U.D.	11.94	8.91
	Bridge-Blean R.D.	9.19	16.38

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified in the United District was 521. Herne Bay Urban District was credited with 43 cases of Scarlet Fever; Broadstairs and St. Peter's with 31; and Bridge-Blean Rural District with 69.

It will be noticed that the cases of Infectious Disease notified are classified in this Report according to whether they occurred in private families or in boarding schools, convalescent homes or other institutions.

Herne Bay Urban District.—The outbreak of Scarlet Fever which occurred during the year 1936 continued until the beginning of March.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District.—No outbreaks of importance occurred except one of Chickenpox, which is a notifiable disease in the District.

Bridge-Blean Rural District.—Reference has been made to this subject on page 83.

The arrangements for providing isolation hospital accommodation for cases of infectious disease occurring in the Bridge-Blean Rural District are still under consideration. At the present time only cases of Scarlet Fever are admitted to the Eastry Rural District Council's Isolation Hospital; cases of other diseases are admitted either to the Isolation Hospital of the Dover Borough or to the Joint Isolation Hospital of the Urban District Councils of Herne Bay and Whitstable.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

The housing of the working-classes is a subject which presents many difficulties, not the least being the fact that many persons are willing to live in houses which do not comply with modern requirements, owing to the fact that rents are lower than those provided by Local Authorities; this is especially the case with the older inhabitants. Two points should be remembered in connection with the subject of Housing, one is the fact that families are as a rule much smaller now than formerly, and secondly, the need for the provision of small houses for aged persons.

A considerable amount of the time of the officials in the Bridge-Blean Rural District was devoted to the inspection of houses and dealing with those which were unfit.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

This Act came into force on the 1st October, 1937: it repeals many Acts.

Circular No. 1597 was issued by the Minister of Health on the 26th February, 1937, drawing attention to certain of the provisions of the above Act, relating to Joint Hospital Boards; Port Sanitary Authorities; Isolation Hospital Committees; and with regard to certain provisions of Parts V, VI and VII of the Act.

Circular No. 1600 was issued by the Minister of Health on the 1st May, 1937, referring to those provisions of the above Act, dealing with (a) Moveable Dwellings, and (b) the Regulation of the conditions in offices.

NOTIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF OPTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Circular No. 1596 was issued by the Minister of Health on the 26th February, 1937, enclosing a copy of "The Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Amendment Regulations, 1937" dated 21st January, 1937: the Regulations to operate from the 1st April, 1937.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

Circulars, Memoranda and Handbooks have been issued by the Air Raid Precautions Department of the Home Office from time to time for the information of Local Authorities and the General Public.

The first Circular was dated 9th July, 1935.

The Air Raid Precautions Act, 1937, was passed: this defines the duties of Local Authorities and deals with financial provisions.

It is the duty of County Councils and County Borough Councils to prepare air raid precaution schemes, except those dealing with fire precaution arrangements, after consultation, in the case of the former, with Councils of County Districts.

The original proposals of the Kent County Council provided that the County should be divided into 21 areas: of these Herne Bay Urban District and Whitstable Urban District were to form one; Canterbury City and County and Bridge-Blean Rural District another; and Margate and Ramsgate Municipal Boroughs, Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District and Eastry Rural District (part) another, but as a matter of fact, the various Councils concerned have acted individually.

As regards the medical services; in the case of first aid parties, ambulance services and first aid posts, the controlling official is the Medical Officer of Health, and the Executive Head the First Aid Commandant. It is obvious that the Medical Officer of Health, whose time is fully occupied with the duties of his office, cannot do more than exercise control. The staffs to be provided for first aid posts should not include qualified medical practitioners, whose services would be required either in their practices or in hospitals.

It seems probable that sufficient volunteers will be forthcoming to staff the first aid posts, etc., in the two Urban Districts, but in a large area like the Bridge-Blean Rural District comprising many villages (there are 25 Parishes), it appears that although four first aid posts may be provided in four large villages, other plans should be made to provide treatment in the remaining villages; in each village a squad of at least four men and one of four women should be formed, who have been through a course of Anti-Gas Training and First Aid, and rooms set apart provided with splints, dressings and appliances, where first aid could be rendered in case of emergency before the casualties were removed to their own homes or to the nearest first aid post or hospital in a temporary ambulance.

Herne Bay Urban District.—A Special Committee consisting of members of the Council and including representatives of various public organizations was appointed in May, 1936. Courses of instruction have been given under the auspices of the Local Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross; two officials of the Surveyor's Department have been through the course at the Anti-gas

School at Falfield. Air Raid Wardens have been appointed and buildings have been selected for First Aid Posts. A scheme of organization was approved by the Council in December, 1936.

Broadstairs and St. Peter's Urban District.—A Special Committee consisting of members of the Council and representatives of various public organizations was formed and held its first meeting on the 17th March, 1936. At a meeting of the Council in April, 1937, Captain C. C. Wallace, M.C., was appointed Air Raid Precautions Officer and he commenced duty on the 12th April.

A Public Meeting addressed by L. Eardley Wilmot, Esq., of the Home Office, was held on 8th October, and was well attended. Other public meetings were held during the winter months at which appeals were made for Air Raid Precaution Volunteers. As Volunteers were obtained classes of instruction were arranged for the various services: these were held at Pierremont Hall. Classes for instruction in Anti Gas measures for the Men's and Women's Sections of the British Red Cross Society have been held. Air Raid Street Wardens have been organized in four sections, corresponding to the four wards of the Urban District. Volunteers to the number of 235 have been enrolled. An Air Raid General Precautions Scheme is in the course of preparation. Arrangements have been made for the storage of all respirators. Buildings have been selected for use as First Aid Posts. Captain Wallace underwent a course of instruction at the Anti-Gas School, Falfield, in January, 1938 and obtained a First Class Instructor's Certificate.

Bridge-Blean Rural District.—At a meeting of the General Purposes Committee on the 19th November, 1936, it was resolved to recommend the Council that an Organizer be engaged for the District, and on the 11th January, 1937, Captain J. A. Pittock was appointed Air Raid Precautions Officer for the Rural District and commenced duty on the 18th January. He attended a course of instruction at the Anti Gas School at Falfield in October and obtained a First Class Instructor's Certificate. He has been provided with an office at the Public Assistance Institution, Bridge, and has a clerk and store-keeper to assist him.

Thirty-one volunteers have been trained as Grade I Instructors, Anti Gas, St. John Ambulance Brigade (external); they have been conducting classes, but sufficient progress has not been made with the training by the St. John Ambulance Brigade in First Aid, owing to financial difficulties.

A demonstration gas protected room has been provided, and that has visited the various parts of the District.

The Medical Officer of Health of the United District, in order to obtain knowledge and experience on the subject of Air Raid Precautions, attended a course of instruction held at the Royal Naval Barracks, Chatham, in October, 1936.

CONGRESSES.

The Medical Officer of Health wishes to express his thanks to the Committee for allowing him to attend the congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health and the Institute of Hygiene, which was held in Margate in May, under the presidency of the Rt. Hon. The Lord Horder, K.C.V.O., M.D., F.R.C.P.

HERNE BAY RIPARIAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Circular 1659 of the Ministry of Health dated 29th November, 1937, was received.

The only ships which entered the port during the year were the passenger steamers belonging to the Eagle and Queen Line Pleasure Steamers, which called at the Pier during the summer and landed and embarked passengers proceeding to and from Chatham, Southend and Margate. The steamers referred to are pleasure boats. The number of passengers landed was 36,178. (This total represents the number of tolls paid at 1d. per passenger).

SHELLFISH.

Mussel beds exist on the foreshore chiefly in the vicinity of the Pier and at Hampton. Formerly there were mussel beds at Bishopstone and Reculver, but these have now ceased to exist. The Sanitary Inspector states as follows:—

“ I believe that mussels are picked by persons for their own use, but I do not think that they are marketed.”

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